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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

DISCOVERIES IN MAGNETISM.

Abstract of "Researches on Magnetism and on certain allied Subjects," including a supposed new Imponderable. By Baron von Reichenbach. Translated and abridged from the German, by W. Gregory, M.D. &c. 8vo, pp. 112. Taylor and Walton.

THIS pamphlet contains an account of a very elaborate series of researches originally published in full in the *Annalen der Chemie und Pharmacie*, and instituted by a German experimenter, the Baron von Reichenbach. The translator, Dr. W. Gregory, states that he "read Baron von Reichenbach's memoir with that interest which a long and familiar acquaintance with his former researches naturally inspired; but soon found that his present subject possessed a much higher interest, and that his researches promised to yield most interesting as well as practically useful results. As he proceeded, he recognised the same ardent zeal in the pursuit of knowledge, the same powers of minute observation, the same accuracy in the details of his experiments, the same caution in devising all possible checks and control in these experiments, and the same logical turn of mind in drawing his conclusions, which had, from the beginning, characterised all the researches of Reichenbach."

As we cannot pretend in our limited space to give even an abstract of an abstract, we must content ourselves with stating very briefly some of the great facts and laws elicited by the untiring perseverance of the author, and add to them a few experiments and observations of our own, in part confirmatory of the results; though differing in their details to that degree which is generally found to obtain in the experiments of different original investigators operating under somewhat different circumstances, and in a different country and climate.

The author's first general result we give in his own words:

"Magnets of ten pounds supporting power, when drawn along the body downwards, without contact, produce certain sensations in a certain proportion of human beings. Occasionally in twenty, three or four sensitive individuals are found; and in one case, out of twenty-two females examined by the author, eighteen were found sensitive. The sensation is rather unpleasant than agreeable, and is like an *aura*; in some cases warm, in others cool; or it may be a pricking, or a sensation of the creeping of insects on the skin: sometimes headache comes rapidly on. These effects occur when the patient does not see the magnet, nor know what is doing: they occur both in males and females, although more frequently in females; they are sometimes seen in strong healthy people, but oftener in those whose health, though good, is not so vigorous, and in what are called nervous persons. Children are frequently found to be sensitive. Persons affected with spasmodic diseases, those who suffer from epilepsy, catalepsy, chorea, paralysis, and hysteria, are particularly sensitive. Lunatics and somnambulists are uniformly sensitive."

The next result is the observation by a cataleptic patient of a flame proceeding from the poles of a magnet:—"The first experiment was made by the patient's father. In profound darkness a horseshoe magnet of nine elements, capable of carrying eighty pounds, was presented to the patient, the armature being removed: and she saw a distinct and continued luminous appearance, which uniformly disappeared when the armature was applied."

(Enlarged 15.)

We must necessarily pass over the further experiments on this point, and refer our readers to the book itself. In the second section the effect of crystals, and other bodies not in themselves ordinarily magnetic, is treated of, which is enounced as follows.

"The author was still more surprised to find that not only the magnet, but a magnetised glass of water, possessed the property of attracting the hand of Mdle. Nowotny. This took place in an inferior degree, but the hand never failed to shew a tendency to follow the magnetised water, whether the patient were in a state of catalepsy or not. Being convinced that such a phenomenon could not be an isolated one, the author tried whether the same effect might not be produced by other bodies besides water, hoping, if this were so, to be enabled to trace some general laws. All sorts of minerals, preparations, drugs, in short, objects of all kinds, were therefore magnetised in the same way as the water, by drawing or passing the magnet along them, and tried on the patient; and all of them had acted as the water had done, more or less powerfully. Some of them caused spasms over the whole body, others only in the arm, others again only in the hand; and lastly, others not at all, although all were equally magnetised. It was clear that a difference existed in the different kinds of matter, which here came into operation. To investigate this the same substances were tried, without being previously magnetised, in their natural condition. To his astonishment they still acted on the patient, and that with a power often little inferior to that which they had when magnetised. They did not, however, always give to the hand a tendency to follow, but more frequently caused it to grasp the magnet convulsively, with various degrees of force. It was also observed that the effect in the cataleptic state was much more distinct and powerful than when the patient was in the normal condition. When the substance to be tried was laid in the hands of the cataleptic (insensible) patient, the result was either, *a*, that the fingers were spasmodically closed on the body or substance—(The substances which acted thus were subdivided into, 1. those which drew the hand after them; and, 2. those which had no such effect)—or, *b*, that the hand remained still, no visible effect being produced. It was therefore easy to arrange the substances according to their action, under *a* or *b*."

A list is then given of the bodies so acting; this is much too long to transcribe, we therefore give a few of the different bodies as instances.

I. INERT.	
Amorphous.	
Ivory.	Silver and gold coin.
Wood.	Copper, brass.
Anthracite.	
Crystallised.	
Dolomite.	Wavellite.
Orpiment.	Natrolite.
Phrenite.	
II. ACTIVE.	
Such as caused the fingers to close on the body with hardly perceptible spasm.	
Diamond, very small.	Sugar candy.
Metallic, antimony.	Gold crystals $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick.
Witherite.	Lievrille.
Augite.	Boracite.
Apatite.	Alum.

Those which caused the hand to contract with violent spasm, and attracted it also when made to pass near it.

Tourmaline. Fluor Spar.
Gypsum. Heavy Spar.

No effect was produced by any of these bodies or by magnets on inorganic matter, in any of the

Baron's experiments: the following is his observation on this point:

"While this force thus appears free from all attraction to inorganic matter, it is worthy of the most marked attention and interest, that it shares with the magnet the power of attracting organised living structures. In Mdle. Nowotny the hand was attracted by the large crystal, exactly as by a magnet of middling size. As we have already seen, the magnet appears to possess two forces, one which attracts iron, &c., the other identical with the crystalline force."

The cautious experimental habits of the author, however, did not permit him to stop at the apparent effect of these bodies and of magnets: if magnetism had any thing to do with the phenomena, its effects must have been considerably modified by terrestrial magnetism. Experiment proved this to be the fact.

"On examining the position of Mdle. Nowotny, she was found lying almost exactly on the magnetic meridian, her head towards the north. She had instinctively chosen this direction, and it had been necessary to take down a stove to allow her bed to be placed as she desired it to be. She was requested, as an experiment, to lie down with her head to the south. It took several days to persuade her to do so; and she only consented in consideration of the weight which the author attached to the experiment. At last one morning he found her in the desired position, which she had assumed very shortly before. She very soon began to complain of discomfort; she became restless, flushed, her pulse became more frequent and fuller, a rush of blood to the head increased the headache, and the sensation of nausea soon attacked the stomach. The bed with the patient was now turned, but was stopped half way, when she lay in a magnetic parallel, with the head to the west. This position was far more disagreeable than the former, indeed absolutely intolerable. This was at half-past eleven A.M. She felt as if she would soon faint, and begged to be removed out of this position. This was done; and as soon as she was restored to the original position, with the head to the north, all disagreeable sensations diminished, and in a few minutes were so completely gone, that she was again cheerful. But besides these very disagreeable feelings, which acted profoundly on her in the altered position, all her sensations, in regard to external matters, were altered. For example, the streaking with a magnet, usually so agreeable, was now disagreeable; and if strong, intolerable; and, in short, all her relations to different substances took a new and very different form."

We regret that our space does not permit us to give many other similar experiments, by which the effects of terrestrial magnetism in modifying these curious phenomena was established.

We, however, give one more:

"All these patients now recollected how painful and disagreeable it had always been for them to remain in church, although they could never tell why. But as all Catholic churches are built from east to west, those in front of the altar are necessarily in the position from west to east, which to all sensitive persons is the most intolerable. In fact, these patients in that position had often fainted and been carried out of church."

The author judiciously observes:

"And since terrestrial magnetism is subject to variations, which are in connexion with the lunar phases, inasmuch that the terrestrial magnetism reaches a minimum, in reference to the moon, at

the period of full moon, one of the causes which influence insanity comes out of darkness at least into twilight. On this point the author promises to return to the subject when the special investigation of it is further advanced."

Having examined, in great detail, the effects of magnets and of crystalline bodies, the author at length finds that neither of these was necessary, but that the human hand was all-sufficient to produce the effect.

"We have now in this investigation arrived at the threshold of the so-called animal magnetism. This '*noli me tangere*' may now be laid hold of. If the author drew a magnet several times downwards from the head to the feet of Mdlle. Sturmann, she became insensible, and fell into convulsions, generally cataleptic. The same result followed when the large rock-crystal was used in the same way. But the author could also produce the same effect with his hands alone. Therefore the crystalline force of the magnet and of the crystal was also found in his hand."

The Baron, having clearly established this and similar effects, goes on to effects derived from the sun's rays upon different bodies—such as a copper wire, a glass of water, the human hand, an iron key, and crystals, which led him to the following important law:—"All these facts unite to form this law. The force derived from the sun, and corresponding to the force of crystals, is capable of being collected in other bodies; and since these bodies can be charged with it and retain it for some time, they possess a certain degree of coercive power in reference to it."

Then he passes naturally from the sun to the moon, and establishes the following important conclusion:—"From all this it follows that the moonlight is not mere moonlight; that, although it conveys no heat, it yet possesses, along with it, light, a powerful hidden influence, which, in all respects, agrees with that residing in magnets, crystals, the human hand, and the sun's rays. The moon is, therefore, the fifth source of this influence."

We then go on to the effect of chemical action, electricity, &c. We have a clear explanation of the hitherto puzzling phenomenon of ghosts: "a human, ghostlike, female form, with one arm laid across the body, the other hanging down," is seen by a young man named Billing, and has a simple and clear explanation, from natural and physical causes, as it is found to result from nothing else than the decomposition of a human body, buried a considerable distance beneath, and a long time previously, in quick-lime (p. 68).

Lastly, we get the great generalisation, that not only the magnet, crystals, the hand, sun, moon, chemical affinity, and electricity, affect individuals in this peculiar manner, but that all kinds of matter do so, "such as paper, wood, linen, trees, people, horses, dogs, cats, ponds of water, &c. &c. &c. in short, every thing material acted on the patient, causing sometimes a cool sometimes a warm current to flow towards him" (page 82).

Having arrived at this extensive generalisation, we shall now give some of our own repetitions of these remarkable experiments of the Herr von Reichenbach, some of which have been already confirmed by Dr. Gregory, and shew how far, by pursuing a similar strict inductive method, we have been enabled to verify many of his results, and wherein our results have differed from his: future and more extensive experiments may possibly reconcile the discrepancies.

The following are the bodies we have principally experimented with, many of which, it will be seen, are identical with those of our author; some are new. We arrange them in the order of their activity; and also give a third class, which we have found exercise a repulsive effect; as well as a peculiar magneto-directive phenomenon, which we shall presently describe.

ACTIVE.

Such as caused the hand to contract with spasms

more or less violent, and attracted it when made to pass near it:

Gold.	English paper.
Diamond.	Brandy and water, enclosed in flint-glass.
Silver.	Beef cut in slices and broiled.
Copper.	Pea-soup in a porcelain bason.
Tin.	

Such as caused the hand to contract with barely perceptible spasm:

Garnets.	Mosaic gold.
Rubies.	Sugar candy.

INERT.

Boracite.	Natrolite.
Apatite.	Wavellite.
Lievrite.	Augite.
Phrenite.	

REPULSIVE.

Castor oil.	Rhubarb.
Sulphate of magnesia.	American paper.

Our experiments have been made upon all classes of people, and we have found the effects invariably to obtain in a very marked manner. So far from experimenting upon cataleptic or nervous patients, we have generally tried the class of bodies which head our list upon active professional men, who require great steadiness of nerve for their different pursuits: but the spasmodic contractions never failed to take place. Among scientific men we observed them very strongly—we should say, quite as marked as among any other class. We incline to think that the contact of dissimilar metals has something to do with the phenomenon; as, on placing a gold and silver piece together on the hand, we have found the effect take place very suddenly, and the pieces generally retained with a tenacity which withstood all our efforts to detach them. On the other hand, when the gold piece was placed on the palm of the hand without the silver, the spasm was not so sudden: though here it was never followed by subsequent relaxation. When the silver was employed without the gold (an experiment we seldom risked, as it produced disagreeable effects on some patients), a slight repulsive effect was occasionally perceived. Generally speaking, the patients on whom the experiments were tried were able to discriminate readily by touch between the different metals; but we found that many, when tried with gold, silver, and copper, called them indiscriminately tin: this peculiarity we do not attempt to explain.

Paper has been long known as a strong electrical agent, and we expected curious results from its use, in which expectation we were not disappointed. English paper—particularly that obtained at a large establishment near the Royal Exchange—universally produced an attractive effect, equal—in some cases superior—to the noble metals. With paper, however, manufactured or prepared in America, the effect was very different: the hands generally receded from it; and, in some few cases, when a slight attractive effect was manifested, we subsequently discovered that the patient was labouring under a cerebral affection. Sometimes a very curious magnetic effect took place, which we must shortly describe. When genuine American paper was presented to the patient, the right hand gradually left its quiescent state by his side, and assumed a stiffened position opposite the face; the fingers were strongly repelled, diverging from each other, and the thumb attached itself and adhered firmly to the nose. This effect was apparently magnetic: it obtained in several experiments; but it would be premature, in the present state of the science, to attempt to explain it,—doubtless future researches will clear it up.

With regard to the influence of terrestrial magnetism, our observations do not quite accord with those of the Baron. We have observed no difference in the effect, whatever was the position of the body of the patient with regard to the magnetic meridian; but we certainly fancy we have detected a difference produced by locality, with respect to the poles of the earth; and that the effects of attraction above mentioned are increased according as the patient experimented on was located farther north. Dr. Gregory, who lives north of the Tweed,

will have many opportunities of realising and extending these observations. The law which we have deduced from these experiments is more simple than that of our author, and may shortly be expressed as follows:—"that the phenomena of attraction are directly as the mass of the attracting body; thus a sovereign of standard gold always produced twice the effect of half a sovereign of the same metal. We are, however, inclined to think that the other branch of the law which obtains in inorganic attraction does not hold good here; for we have not observed that it is inversely as the square of the distance. It is a very singular coincidence, that several of our patients made verbatim the same observation as those of the Baron—they said, "they recollected how painful and disagreeable it had always been for them to remain in church, but they could never tell why;" and many of them complained of an irresistible tendency when there to a comatose state. We could not, however, find that these sensations depended upon their position with regard to the magnetic meridian; but rather seemed to depend upon some magnetic influence of the clergyman, as the comatose differed much in degree for different preachers.

It will be seen that many of the above experiments agree in the main points with those of the Baron; others certainly shew some striking differences; but it is ever thus at the first opening of new mines of research: none of our experiments at all militate against the remarkable law which he has developed, viz. "that bodies which can retain a force for some time possess a certain degree of coercive power in reference to it." We also agree with the Baron as to the cooling effect of ponds of water, and other minor points; but we will not weary our readers with a further description of our experiments; we are glad that, these discoveries being now fairly before the world, every one will have it in his power to repeat and compare the experiments of the German philosopher and our own, to verify the general results of both, and where they differ to discern which, in fact, presents the most accurate exposition of natural phenomena.

MEMOIRS OF THE JACOBITES.

Memoirs of the Jacobites of 1715 and 1745. By Mrs. Thomson. Vol. III. 8vo, pp. 524. London, R. Bentley.

WHERE history and romance, and biography and tragedy, mingle so intimately as in the memoirs of the two eventful periods embraced by this work, there could be no want of interest, even in indifferent hands. But when such good taste, sound judgment, and proper feeling as Mrs. Thomson possesses are brought to the task, it necessarily attains higher attractions, and asserts its place in the standard polite literature of the country. In reviewing the preceding volumes we expended some of our hypercriticism in pointing out a few slight mistakes: in the present sequel, we have nothing to do but to commend.

The lives are those of Lord George Murray, James Drummond Duke of Perth, Flora Macdonald, William Boyd Earl of Kilmarnock, and Charles Radcliffe; with portraits of the Prince, Flora, and the intrepid Balmerino. Upon all these the author has bestowed laudable research, and in not a few instances her industry has been rewarded by access to fresh matter, which throws a new light both upon individual character and events involved in these calamitous struggles.

The life of Lord George Murray occupies nearly half the volume, and the great questions relating to his conduct are dispassionately examined. With some doubts, we are inclined to agree with Mrs. Thomson's summing up:

"The mind of Lord George Murray was one of great original power, and less dependent upon those circumstances which usually affect the formation of character, than that of most men. He was determined and inflexible in opinions, yet cautious in action. That he was sincere and honourable there can now be little doubt. It was his conscientiousness that rendered him so great a man."

ness of upright intentions which inspired him with contempt for the littleness of others; and with his love of superiority, his self-will and ambition, there was wrought a strong conviction of his own worth, as opposed to the hollowiness of some of his party.

"As a soldier, indeed, the qualities of Lord George Murray rose to greatness: so enduring, and so fearless, so careless of danger to himself, yet so solicitous for others. As a general, some great defects may be pointed out in his composition, without detracting from his merits as a private individual.

"But Lord George was not only a disciplinarian; in his own person, he set the example of a scrupulous honesty. 'I never,' he writes in his explanation of his conduct, 'took the least thing without paying the full value. I thought that I could not reasonably find fault with others in that, if I did not shew them a good example.' To the sick and wounded Lord George invariably paid the utmost attention; and, under his guidance, the Highlanders, heretofore so fierce towards each other in their contents, were remarkable for a degree of humanity which was disgracefully contrasted with the barbarity of their conquerors. Such were his general attributes in his military station. Whatever doubts may have existed in the mind of Charles Edward as to the fidelity of his General, are silenced by the long and hopeless exile of Lord George Murray, and by the continued friendship of the Chevalier St. George. No overtures, as in the case of the Earl of Mar, to the British Government, nor efforts on the part of his prosperous and favoured brother, the Duke of Atholl, have transpired to show that in saving Blair there was a secret understanding that there should be a future reward, for that any surmise of treachery had opened a door to reconciliation. Charles, be it remembered, was under that daily, hourly influence, which weakens the judgment, and exasperates the passions. His opinion of Lord George Murray must not be accepted as any evidence against one who had redeemed the inconsistencies of his youth by the great exertions of his manhood. Some vital defects there were, nevertheless, in this General, of powerful intellect, and of earnest and honourable intentions. His character partook too largely of that quality which has raised his country as a nation in all other countries, prudence. For his peculiar situation he was far too cautious. Persevering and inflexible, he was destitute of hope. If it be true, that he entered into the undertaking with a conviction that the cause could never prosper, he was the last man that should have been the general of an army whose ardour, when not engaged in action, he invariably restrained. All contending opinions seem to hesitate and to falter when they relate to the retreat from Derby, the grand error of the enterprise; the fatal step, when the tide served, and the wind was propitious, and an opportunity never to be regained was for ever lost. In private society, Lord George Murray is reported to have been overbearing and hasty; his fine person and handsome countenance were lessened in their agreeableness by a haughty deportment. He was simple, temperate, and self-denying in his habits. In his relations of life, he appears to have been respectable. His letters shew him to have enjoyed at least the usual means of education offered to a soldier who entered upon active service at sixteen, or to have improved his own acquirements. They are clear and explicit, and bear the impress of sincerity and good sense. Distrusted as he was by Charles Edward, and misrepresented by others, we may accord to Lord George Murray the indulgence which he claims from posterity in these, the last words of his vindication:—

"Upon the whole, I shall conclude with saying, if I did not all the good I would, I am sure I did all I could."

In the memoir of the Duke of Perth, the author naturally refers to the absurd attempt made some years ago on the part of the family of a collier,

for whom a very pretty romance was got up by a needy and inventive person (a limb of the law, we believe), setting forth that the duke did not die at sea, as reported, but returned *incog.* to somewhere about Sunderland, and, by way of keeping himself as much concealed from the Hanoverian government as possible, hid himself under the surface of the earth in the pleasant occupation of a pitman. This silly fraud was legally met and defeated; and the interesting romance vanished, like the coals dug by the ducal pitman, in smoke. But still such matters are necessarily resuscitated in biographical publications; and doubt and mystery have always their votaries to a certain degree, gaining also by the shadowy lapse of years. But even within the short space that has elapsed since Mrs. Thomson's volume appeared, a decisive communication as to any doubt even as to precise date of the duke's death has reached her and us:—of its certainty there was previously no real question, nor any ground whatever for the coal-pit story and the identity of its hero—together with his adventures in disguise in Perthshire, where, in spite of his black face, slouched hat, and subterranean costume, he was said to have been recognised by sundries who knew him in his feudal splendour!

Among the Stuart Papers there is a document which proves that the duke died at sea in 1746. There is the original memoir presented by the Duchess of Perth to King James, wherein the widow states the notorious fact as a ground on which to found the legal plea as a bar to the attainer of the duke's blood and estate. She declares that the duke died before the act (of attainder) was passed, and it was passed in May 1746; which fully corroborates the received account that the duke died on the 11th of the same month.

We believe Mrs. Thomson, whose patient inquiry has done her so much credit, was not enabled to consult all the Stuart papers, the publication of which we may shortly anticipate, and therefore could not be aware of this record till too late for her first edition. There is, we think, a *ms.* by Daniel, the duke's secretary, which it would be gratifying to find and consult.

Without going into the other biographies, or doing more than touch on the affecting executions of Lords Kilmarnock and Balmerino, and Charles Radcliffe, we will pass at once to quote some of the novelty so interesting in this performance, and first turn to copy a letter in the appendix relative to the social state of the Chevalier St. George at Rome, for permission to publish which, says Mrs. Thomson, "I am indebted to the valued friendship of my brother-in-law, Samuel Coltman, Esq., in whose possession it is, having been bequeathed, with other *ms.* to his mother, by the well-known Joseph Spence, author of the 'Anecdotes,' and of other works."

It was, she farther informs us, addressed by Mr. Spence to his father, who had forbidden him to enter into the society of the Pretender at Rome. It is not dated, and runs thus:

"Sir,—About a month ago, Mr. — and I being in search of some of the antiquities of your place, we became acquainted with an English gentleman, very knowing in this kind of learning, and who proved of great use to us; his name is Dr. Cooper, a priest of the Church of England, whom we did not suspect to be of the Pretender's retinue, but took him to be a curious traveller, which opinion created in me a great liking for his conversation. On Easter eve, he made us the compliment, that as he supposed us bred in the profession of the said church, he thought it incumbent on him to invite us to divine service, next day being Easter Sunday. Such language, at Rome, appeared to me a jest. I stared at the Doctor, who added that the Pretender (whom he called king) had prevailed with the late pope, to grant license for having divine service according to the rules of the Church of England performed in his palace, for the benefit of the Protestant gentlemen of his suite, his domestics, and travellers; and that Dr.

Berkley and himself were appointed for the discharge of this duty; and that prayers were read as ordinarily here as in London. I should have remained of St. Thomas's belief, had I not been a witness that this is a matter of fact, and as such, have noted it down, as one of the greatest wonders of Rome. This was the occasion of my first entrance into the Pretender's house: I became acquainted with both the Doctors, who are sensible, well-bred men. I put several questions to them about the Pretender, and, if credit can be given them, they assure me he is a moral, upright man, being far from any sort of bigotry, and most averse to disputes and distinctions of religion, whereof not a word is admitted in his family. They described him in person very much to the resemblance of King Charles II., which they say he approaches more and more every day, with a great application to business, and a head well turned that way, having only some clerks, to whom he dictates such letters as he does not write with his own hand. In some days after, my friend and I went to take the evening air in the stately park called Villa Ludovici; there we met, face to face, on a sudden, with the Pretender, his Princess and court; we were so very close before we understood who they were, that we could not retreat with decency; common civility obliged us to stand side ways in the alley, as others did, to let them pass by. The Pretender was easily distinguished by his star and garter, as well as by his air of greatness, which discovered a majesty superior to the rest. I felt, at that instant of his approach, a strange convulsion in body and mind, such as I never was sensible of before; whether aversion, awe, or respect occasioned it, I can't tell: I remarked his eyes fixed on me, which, I confess, I could not bear. I was perfectly stunned, and not aware of myself, when, pursuant to what the standers-by did, I made him a salute; he returned it with a smile, which changed the sedateness of his first aspect into a very graceful countenance; as he passed by I observed him to be a well-sized, clean-limbed man. I had but one glimpse of the Princess, which left me a great desire of seeing her again; however, my friend and I turned off into another alley, to reason at leisure on our several observations: there we met Dr. Cooper, and, after making some turns with him, the same company came again in our way. I was grown somewhat bolder, and resolved to let them pass as before, in order to take a full view of the Princess: she is of a middling stature, well-shaped, and has lovely features: wit, vivacity, and mildness of temper are painted in her look. When they came to us, the Pretender stood, and spoke a word to the Doctor; then looking at us, he asked him whether we were English gentlemen; he asked us how long we had been in town, and whether we had any acquaintance in it; then told us he had a house, where English gentlemen would be very welcome. The Princess, who stood by, addressing herself to the Doctor in the prettiest English I think I ever heard, said, 'Pray, Doctor, if these gentlemen be lovers of music, invite them to my concert to-night; I charge you with it,' which she accompanied with a salute in the most gracious manner. It was a very hard task, sir, to recede from the honour of such an invitation, given by a princess, who, although married to the Pretender, deserves so much in regard to her person, her house, and family. However, we argued the case with the Doctor, and represented the strict orders we had to the contrary; he replied there would be no prohibition to a traveller against music, even at the ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church; that if we missed this occasion of seeing this assembly of the Roman nobility, we might not recover it while we stayed in Rome; and that it became persons of our age and degree to act always the part of gentlemen, without regard to party humours. These arguments were more forcible than ours, so we went, and saw a bright assembly of the prime Roman nobility, the concert composed of the best musicians of Rome, a plentiful and orderly colla-

tion served; but the courteous and affable manner of our reception was more taking than all the rest. We had a general invitation given us whilst we stayed in town, and were desired to use the palace as our house: we were indispensably obliged to make a visit next day, in order to return thanks for so many civilities received;—those are things due to a Turk. We were admitted without ceremony; the Pretender entertained us on the subject of our families as knowingly as if he had been all his life in England; he told me some passages of myself and father, and of his being against the followers of King Charles I. and II., and added, 'that if you, sir, had been of age before my grandfather's death, to learn his principles, there had been little danger of your taking party against the rights of a Stuart.'

He then observed how far the prejudices of education and wrong notions of infancy are apt to carry people from the paths of their ancestors: he discoursed as pertinently on several of our neighbouring families as I could do, upon which I told him I was surprised at his so perfect knowledge of our families in England; his answer was, that from his infancy he had made it his business to acquire the knowledge of the laws, customs, and families of his country, so that he might not be reported a stranger when the Almighty pleased to call him thither. These and the like discourses held until word was brought that dinner was served; we endeavoured all we could to withdraw, but there was no possibility for it after he had made us this compliment, 'I assure you, gentlemen, I shall never be for straining man's inclinations; however, our grandfathers, who were worthy people, dined, and I hope there can be no fault found that we do the same.' There is every day a regular table of ten or twelve covers well served, into which some of the qualified persons of his court, or travellers, are invited: it is supplied with English and French cooking, French and Italian wines; but I took notice that the Pretender eat only of the English dishes, and made his dinner of roast beef, and what we call Devonshire pie; he also prefers our March beer, which he has from Leghorn, to the best wines: at the dessert, he drinks his glass of champagne very heartily, and to do him justice, he is as free and cheerful at his table as any man I know; he spoke much in favour of our English ladies, and said he was persuaded he had not many enemies among them; then he carried a health to them. The Princess with a smiling countenance took up the matter, and said, 'I think then, sir, it would be but just that I drink to the cavaliers.' Sometime after, the Pretender began a health to the prosperity of all friends in England, which he addressed to me. I took the freedom to reply, that as I presumed he meant his own friends, he would not take it ill that I meant mine. 'I assure you, sir,' said he, 'that the friends you mean can have no great share of prosperity till they become mine; therefore, here's prosperity to yours and mine.' After we had eaten and drank very heartily, the Princess told us we must go see her son, which could not be refused; he is really a fine promising child, and is attended by English women, mostly Protestants, which the Princess observed to us, saying, that as she believed he was to live and die among Protestants, she thought fit to have him brought up by their hands; and that in the country where she was born there was no other distinction but that of honour and dishonour. These women, and particularly two Londoners, kept such a racket about us to make us kiss the young Pretender's hand, that we got clear of them as soon as we could, we were forced to comply: the Princess laughed very heartily, and told us that she did not question but the day would come that we should not be sorry to have made so early an acquaintance with her son. I thought myself under the necessity of making her the compliment, that being here, he could not miss being good and happy. On the next post-day, we went, as commonly the English gentlemen here

do, to the Pretender's house for news. He had received a great many letters, and after perusing them he told us that there was no great prospect of amendment in the affairs of England; that the Secret Committee and several other honest men were taking abundance of pains to find out the cause of the nation's destruction, which knowledge, when attained to, would avail only to give the more concern to the public, without procuring relief; for that the authors would find means to be above the reach of the common course of justice: he bemoaned the misfortune of England groaning under a load of debts, and the severe hardships contracted and imposed to support foreign interests: he lamented the ill-treatment and disregard of the ancient nobility; and said it gave him great trouble to see the interest of the nation abandoned to the direction of a new set of people, who must at any rate enrich themselves by the spoil of their country: 'some may imagine,' continued he, 'that these calamities are not displeasing to me, because they may, in some measure, turn to my advantage; I renounce all such unworthy thoughts.'

Our next illustration refers to the death of Lord Kilmarnock. When apprised that his fate was to be sealed on the following Monday, it is affectingly written:

"In the silence and solitude of his prison, Lord Kilmarnock's recollection reverted to those whom human nature were shortly to be left to buffet with the storms of their hard fate. It reverted also to those who might, in any way, have suffered at his hands. The following touching epistle addressed to his factor, Mr. Robert Paterson, written two days only before his execution, shews how tender was his affection for his unhappy wife: in how Christian a spirit towards others he died. His consideration for the poor shoemakers of Elgin is one of those beautiful traits of character which mark a conscientious mind. The original of this letter is still in existence, and is in the possession of the great-grandson of him to whom it was addressed.

"Sir,—I have commended to your care the enclosed packet, to be delivered to my wife in the manner your good sense shall dictate to you will be least shocking to her. Let her be prepared for it as much by degrees, and with great tenderness, as the nature of the thing will admit of. The entire dependence I have all my life had the most just reason to have on your integrity and friendship to my wife and family, as well as to myself, make me desire that the enclosed papers may come to my wife through your hands, in confidence; but you will take all the pains to comfort her, and relieve the grief I know she will be in, that you and her friends can. She is what I love dearest behind me in the world; and the greatest service you can do to your dead friend is, to contribute as much as possible to her happiness in mind, and in her affairs. You will peruse the state[ment] before you deliver it to her, and you will observe that there is a fund of hers (I don't mention that of five hundred Scots a-year), as the interest of my mother-in-law's portion, in the Countess of Errol's hands, with, I believe, a considerable arrear upon it; which, as I have ordered a copy of all these papers to that Countess, I did not care to put in. There is another thing of a good deal of moment, which I mention only to you, because if it could be taken away without noise it would be better; but if it is pushed it will be necessary to defend it. That is, a bond which you know Mr. Kerr, Director to the Chancery, has of me for a considerable sum of money, with many years' interest on it, which was almost all play-debt. I don't think I ever had fifty pounds, or the half of it, of Mr. Kerr's money, and I am sure I never had a hundred; which, however, I have put it in the enclosed declaration, that my mind may be entirely at ease. My intention with respect to that sum was, to wait till I had some money, and then buy it off, by a composition of three hundred pounds, and if that was not accepted of, to defend it; in which I neither saw, nor now

see, anything unjust; and now I leave it on my successors to do what they find most prudent in it. Beside my personal debt mentioned in general and particular in the state, there is one for which I am liable in justice, if it is not paid, owing to poor people, who gave their work for it by my orders; it was at Elgin in Murray; the regiment I commanded wanted shoes. I commissioned something about seventy pair of shoes and brogues, which might come to about three shillings, or three and sixpence each, one with another. The magistrates divided them among the shoemakers of the town and country, and each shoemaker furnished his proportion. I drew on the town for the price out of the composition laid on them, but I was told afterwards at Inverness, that it was believed the composition was otherwise applied, and the poor shoemakers not paid. As these poor people wrought by my orders, it will be a great ease to my heart to think they are not to lose by me, as too many have done in the course of that year; but had I lived, I might have made some inquiry after it; but now it is impossible, as their hardships in loss of horses, and such things which happened through my soldiers, are so interwoven with what was done by other people, that it would be very hard, if not impossible, to separate them. If you will write to Mr. Jones of Dalkinty, at Elgin (with whom I was quartered when I lay there), he will send you an account of the shoes, and if they were paid to the shoemakers or no; and if they are not, I beg you'll get my wife, or my successors, to pay them when they can. Receive a letter to me from Mrs. Boyd, my cousin Malcomb's widow; I shall desire her to write to you for an answer. Accept of my sincere thanks for your friendship and good services to me. Continue them to my wife and children. My best wishes are to you and yours, and for the happiness and prosperity of the good town of Kilmarnock, and I am, sir, your humble servant,

"KILMARNOCK,
Tower of London, August 16th, 1746."

"On the Saturday previous to the execution of Lord Kilmarnock, General Williamson gave his prisoners a minute account of all the circumstances of solemnity and outward terror which would accompany it. Lord Kilmarnock heard it much with the same expression of concern as a man of a compassionate disposition would read it in relation to others. After suggesting a trifling alteration in the arrangements after the execution, he expressed his regret that the headsman should be, as General Williamson informed him, a 'good sort of man,' remarking, that one of a rougher nature and harder heart would be more likely to do his work quickly. He then requested that four persons might be appointed to receive the head when it was severed from the body, in a red cloth; that it might not, as he had heard was the case at other executions, 'roll about the scaffold and be mangled and disfigured.' 'For I would not,' he added, 'though it may be but a trifling matter, that my remains should appear with any needless indecency, after the just sentence of the law is satisfied.' He spoke calmly and easily on all these particulars, nor did he even shrink when told that his head would be held up and exhibited to the multitude as that of a traitor. 'He knew,' he said, 'that it was usual, and it did not affect him.' During these singular conversations, his spiritual attendant, and the General could hardly have been more precise in their descriptions had they been portraying the festive, ceremonials of a coming bridal than they were in the fearful minutiae of the approaching execution. It was thought by them that such recitals would accustom the mind of the prisoner to the apparatus and formalities that would attend his death, and that these would lose their influence over his mind. 'He allowed with me,' observes Mr. Foster, 'that such circumstances were not so melancholy as dying, after a lingering disorder, in a darkened room, with weeping friends around one, and whilst the shattered frame sank under slow exhaustion.' But experience and human feelings contradict this obser-

vation of the resigned and unhappy sufferer; we look to death, under such an aspect, as the approach of rest; but human nature shrinks from the violent struggle, the momentary but fierce convulsion, plunging us, as it were, into the abyss of the grave."

With him died the heroic Balmerino, as the old ballad has it

"Beheaded were these lords two,
Kilmarnock and Balmerino"

And with the additions and corrections made by the author to the oft-repeated accounts of his final scene, we take our leave of this volume, so framed for a widely popular reception. After the decapitation of his fellow-sufferer, "he ascended the scaffold, 'treading,' as an observer expressed it, 'with the air of a General,' and surveying the spectators, bowed to them; he walked round it, and read the inscription on his coffin, 'Arthurus Dominus de Balmerino, decollatus, 18^o die Augusti, 1746, ætatis sue 58^æ,' observed 'that it was right,' and with apparent pleasure looked at the block, saying it was his 'pillow of rest.' Lord Balmerino then pulling out his spectacles, read a paper to those who stood around him, and delivered it to the sheriff to do with it as he thought proper. It was subsequently printed in a garbled form, much of it being deemed too treasonable for publication, and in that form is preserved in the 'State Trials.' For the original of Lord Balmerino's real speech, which is highly characteristic of its author, I am indebted to Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe, Esq. 'I was bred in the anti-revolution principles, which I have ever persevered in, from a sincere persuasion that the restoration of the royal family, and the good of my native country, are inseparable. The action of my life which now stares me most in the face, is my having accepted a commission in the army from the late Princess Anne, who I knew had no more right to the crown than her predecessor, the Prince of Orange, whom I always considered as an infamous usurper. In the year 1715, as soon as the king landed in Scotland, I thought it my indispensable duty to join his standard, though his affairs were then in a desperate situation. I was in Switzerland in the year 1734, where I received a letter from my father acquainting me that he had procured me remission, and desiring me to return home. Not thinking myself at liberty to comply with my father's desire without the king's approbation, I wrote to Rome to know his majesty's pleasure, and was directed by him to return home; and at the same time I received a letter of credit upon my banker at Paris, who furnished me with money to defray the expense of my journey, and put me in repair. I think myself bound, upon this occasion, to contradict a report which has been industriously spread, and which I never heard of till I was prisoner; that orders were given to the prince's army to give no quarter at the battle of Culloden. With my eye upon the block, which will soon bring me unto the highest of all tribunals, I do declare that it is without any manner of foundation, both because it is impossible it could have escaped the knowledge of me, who was captain of the prince's life-guards, or of Lord Kilmarnock, who was colonel of his own regiment; but still more so, as it is entirely inconsistent with the mild and generous nature of that brave prince, whose patience, fortitude, intrepidity, and humanity, I must declare upon this solemn occasion, are qualities in which he excels all men I ever knew, and which it ever was his desire to employ for the relief and preservation of his father's subjects. I believe rather, that this report was spread to palliate and excuse the murders they themselves committed in cold blood after the battle of Culloden. I think it my duty to return my sincere acknowledgments to Major White and Mr. Fowler, for their humane and complaisant behaviour to me during my confinement. I wish I could pay the same compliment to General Williamson, who used me with the greatest inhumanity and cruelty; but having taken the sacrament this day, I forgive

him, as I do all my enemies. I die in the religion of the Church of England, which I look upon as the same with the Episcopal Church of Scotland, in which I was brought up.' Laying his head upon the block, he said, 'God reward my friends, and forgive my enemies; bless and restore the king; preserve the prince and the Duke of York, and receive my soul.'"

BELL'S LIFE OF CANNING.

The Life of the Right Hon. George Canning. By Robert Bell, author of the "History of Russia," "Lives of English Poets," &c. &c. Pp. 368. Chapman and Hall.

A VOLUME for the "Monthly Series" issued by these judicious and enterprising publishers; and one which does credit to it. Mr. Bell is an able and practised writer, and has produced his work in a workman-like manner. We think his estimates of the conduct of Mr. Canning, in the important and salient points of his noble career, all extremely impartial, just, and correct; and in some cases, when the circumstances are truly stated and fairly discussed, well calculated to disabuse the public of gross misrepresentations, which were made current by party spite and political jealousies. Among these the causes of the duel with Lord Castlereagh, and the falsification of the speech about the revered and ruptured Ogden, may be classed. In other respects, we cannot consider Mr. Bell to have given such dispassionate and well-considered opinions. His own strong political bias appears to have warped his mind into something like bitter animosity, when speaking of George IV., Lord Castlereagh, Mr. Pitt, and others to whom he is opposed; and indeed we would say that the chief fault in the volume is, that it goes too far into political questions. We select a few examples of this style:

"The Prince of Wales was avowedly at the head of the opposition. He not only possessed the reputation of being the 'first gentleman of the age,' but was resolved to maintain it, in its princely sense at least, by the super-royal splendour of his expenditure. It was nothing to the purpose that the people were the munificent sufferers who paid for these luxuries. In 1787, parliament had discharged his royal highness's debts (nearly 200,000*l.*), on a full assurance from his royal highness, guaranteed in a royal message by his majesty, that he would incur no more; but a very few years elapsed before the prince came down to the house again, and denied point-blank that he had ever promised to live within his income, giving at the same time the best possible proof of his determination not to do so, by requesting the Commons to pay off the liabilities he had incurred in the interim, amounting to no less than 600,000*l.* To do him bare justice, there never was a prince of the blood who entertained so large a contempt for the integrity of a promise of any sort, or who had so grand a way of over-running the constable. The festivities of Carlton House were famous all over Europe. The taste displayed at the prince's parties was worthy of their oriental magnificence; for in the midst of the grossest depravities, he managed to surround himself with intellect and social talent of the highest order, and to secure for his table every foreigner of celebrity who visited the country. By such means, he sustained his political position, and communicated a tone to society that had an important influence upon those detached masses of floating opinion, which, although they never become resolved into a compact body, exercise a species of irregular power over the public mind. The prestige of the prince's name was formidable in the fashionable world. Even his vices were set off with such brilliancy and grace of style as to render them attractive: moral repugnance was fascinated into admiration, and his showy and illusive popularity prospered upon his very delinquencies."

Lord Castlereagh.—"Amongst the most furious supporters of the Society of United Irishmen, which

grew out of the discontents of 1792, was a young nobleman belonging to a rich and powerful family in the north, who had given a remarkable proof of his patriotism only the year before, by the expenditure of no less than 30,000*l.* on a contested election. If he were not actually a member of that formidable body (which there is much reason to believe he was), he at least rendered himself notorious by his open advocacy of its principles. Nothing was too desperate for the ardour of his nationality. He was the intimate friend of the Sheares, who were hanged in the rebellion, and was himself so deeply implicated in the movements which preceded that catastrophe, that he was supposed to be quite ready at any convenient opportunity, to "cut the painter." All this time he was in the Irish parliament; but Mr. Pitt, discerning his uses, drew him over to England, and in 1795 he took his seat, for the first time, in the English House of Commons. And now it was that he performed the most wonderful evolution—the cleanest psychological summersault—ever witnessed in the legislative gymnasium. The firebrand of the Irish opposition seconds the English address—the fomentor of the rebellion becomes the avenger of the law—the suspected abettor of separation becomes the agent of the union. All of a sudden, to borrow an expressive image of his own, this political *Scapin* turned his back upon himself. He not only abandoned the party upon whose shoulders he had clambered into power, and which was called into existence to vindicate the liberties of the country, but he handed over the country itself, bound neck and crop, to the British minister. He was not satisfied with breaking the vow, but he must complete the sacrilege by breaking the altar too. Lord Castlereagh and Mr. Canning were about the same age, and entered public life about the same time. The one commanded a county, with which he bribed the minister; and, after having identified himself for four years with a party whose excesses he encouraged, took office and apostatised. The other belonged to no party, until he went into parliament; he then avowed his principles, and maintained them, through good and evil, to the end of his life."

The French Revolution.—"About this period, a phrase got into use, which seems to have been perfectly well understood by every body, but which, at this distance of time, does not appear to convey a very accurate idea of anything. It led to unexampled confusion in the country. Had a raging plague gone forth sweeping the land's breadth, it could not have produced more desolating effects; some people were cowed and struck dumb at its approach; others, inspired with a sort of frenzy, defied it to come on, as if it were an incarnate fiend; and the government, impressed with a proper paternal responsibility, took every possible precaution that could be devised for averting this alarming visitation. It is not to be hoped that any body in the nineteenth century will be much enlightened as to the terrible cause of this national fright by being informed that it bore the name of *French principles*. That was its name, whatever its nature might have been; and the administration, in their urgent anxiety for the public safety, thought of nothing, night, noon, or morning, but how they should keep it out of the country. There are some French articles—such as fans, gloves, blonde, and the like—which can be excluded without difficulty; and should it ever be considered desirable to prevent their admission into England, we know exactly how to do it, by setting them down in the tariff at a prohibitory duty. But it was not so easy to describe French principles in the tariff, or to get revenue officers to seize and confiscate them at the ports. Spanish mahogany is intelligible. If we were told that there was an extraordinary supply coming across the seas to us, we might probably anticipate a derangement in the timber-market. But we should have no such uneasiness if we heard of a shipment of French principles. Judging from the nature of

principles in general, we should be disposed to imagine that the cargo must be rather volatile and harmless. Nevertheless, the bare suspicion of such an importation threw the established authorities of this island into an agony of apprehension. Mahogany can be cut, and sawed, and seasoned, and made into chairs. Not so a principle, which having no physical attributes whatever, bears a nearer analogy to the object of the war, which Mr. Canning declared could not be taken up in gentleman's hands and turned round and round upon the table. But how this intangible and elemental thing—the common property of the reason and imagination of all nations—could be called French any more than Russian or Hanoverian, it is hard to say. If any one were to speak of a Hottentot principle, he would be set down as an egregious blockhead; yet we cannot, for the life of us, see why there should not be Hottentot principles as well as French principles. Still, notwithstanding the incomprehensibility of the thing, true it is, that for a long and dreary season multitudes of honest people, who had caught up this cuckoo-cry about French principles, used to quake in their shoes at the bare thought of their spreading into this happy country; as if no such principles had ever found their way here before; or as if, being dressed up in the French fashion, they had become odious to our English taste. The difficulty of understanding is great, how it came to pass, that we, the people of this country, ever could have been afraid of such a phrase; or how we could have suffered it to fly about in books, newspapers, state-documents, and common conversation, with some direfully mysterious meaning attached to it over and above that of mere revolution—we who had beheaded one king, and driven out a race of kings for betraying their trust—we, whose living dynasty was placed on the throne by a revolution.

"This mad panic was foolish and unreasoning, not alone in attributing peculiar danger to the circulation of these principles, but in presupposing (for otherwise there could have been no danger) that the people were inclined to lay violent hands on the monarchy, or to disturb in the slightest degree the integrity of our mixed and balanced constitution. We have the express declarations of all the popular leaders to the contrary, and their recorded testimony in favour of a limited monarchy, as the mode of government which presented, above all others, the most perfect safeguards for public liberty. In fact, so far from entertaining any desire to destroy the constitution, the aim of the reformers was to purify and invigorate it. And had they entertained such a design, they neither could have been prevented from effecting it by the suppression of these French principles, nor furnished with a solitary additional reason for prosecuting it by their most active diffusion. But, giving the government full credit for the best intentions, was there ever such a stark staring absurdity as the notion that they could check the admission into this country, or the propagation in it, of political doctrines of any kind? How could they do it? By calling out the militia? By putting a tax upon reading and writing? They might as well have talked of keeping out the sun, or stopping the course of the winds. And all the time that this folly was shewing itself through all sorts of actual precautions on the part of the executive, the press was disseminating the poison as fast as hands could distil and distribute it through every nook and cranny of the kingdom; and parliament was accelerating its consumption by eternally analysing and discussing its miraculous properties, and serving it out gratis to the poor in infinitesimal doses. The danger was held to be so great that there was nothing else talked of; until at last the curiosity of fear was wrought up to such intensity, that there was not a man, woman, or child, from the Land's End to John o' Groats, who was not as well acquainted with the doctrines of the revolution as the French themselves. To

say that the minister did not restrain the diffusion of French principles would be saying little;—he not only did not restrain them, but by betraying the impotent desire to do so, he stimulated their circulation to an extent incalculably greater than they could have attained under any other possible circumstances. It used to be said—but the saying is fast dying out—that had it not been for the vigorous measures of Pitt, the populace would have taken up the doctrines of the revolution. The reverse of this good old saying happens to be true. In consequence of the vigorous measures of Pitt, the populace did take up the doctrines of the revolution; but in consequence of their own good sense—they laid them down again. Instead of congratulating ourselves, therefore, on the vigilance of Pitt, it would be more consonant with justice to acknowledge what we owe to the virtue of the people."

Few persons of information like Mr. Bell, and of sound mind, will, we think, be disposed to take this view of the perils threatened to England at the period alluded to by the infection of the French revolutionary mania, or principles. Not the mahogany ridicule nor *argumentum ad absurdum* of the author, will persuade the world, that against the poison which spread from America to France, and spread from France throughout Europe, Great Britain had a certain antidote and charmed life: no, a very small turn would have converted the "mad panic" and silly fright into a very wild rebellion and bloody revolution. Englishmen were not so different from Frenchmen in their natures and liability to be misled as to make the thing impossible, and the notion to be scouted or laughed at in the manner our author has chosen to argue. But we agree with him that the projection of the *Anti-Jacobin* was that of a powerful weapon to combat the foreign absurdities, and expose the follies and crimes which were like to incite imitation in our own country.

"The avowed purpose of this journal (No. 1 published November 1st, 1797), was to expose the vicious doctrines of the revolution, and to turn into ridicule and contempt the advocates of them in this country. The work originated with Mr. Canning, who wrote the prospectus, and contributed some of its ablest articles. Mr. Gifford was the editor, and amongst the writers were Mr. John Hookham Frere, Mr. Jenkinson, Mr. George Ellis, Lord Clare, and Lord Mornington, afterwards Marquis Wellesley."

Mr. Pitt also contributed to it, and others of whom and whose writings we may soon hope for the exact particulars; and in the mean time we must express our utter dissent from nearly all Mr. Bell's criticisms upon this periodical, except what relates to Mr. Canning. For he says:

"It occupied the opposite ground to that which had formerly been taken up by the 'Rolliad' and the 'Probationary Odes,' but 'with a difference.' The wit and vigour (and scurrility) of the 'Anti-Jacobin' left behind, at an immeasurable distance, the gentlemanly satire of the Whigs. Wherever the wit of the 'Anti-Jacobin' is irresistible, the reader may conclude that he has detected the hand of Canning; but there was such a copartnership in these things, and such a disinclination to separate each person's share, even were it possible to do so, that with some marked exceptions, the authorship cannot now be ascertained with certainty. The work closed in 1798, and during its brief existence Mr. Canning wrote largely for it. His connexion with it was well known at the time, nor was he ever disposed to disavow it. He declared in Parliament, ten years afterwards, that he had no other source of regret for the share he had in it, except the imperfection of his pieces. But what that share was is to a great extent a matter of conjecture, to be determined by internal evidence."

"Mr. Moore (continues Mr. Bell), in his 'Life of Sheridan,' says: 'The 'Rolliad' and the 'Anti-Jacobin' may, on their respective sides of the question, be considered as models of that style of poli-

tical satire, whose lightness and vivacity give it the appearance of proceeding rather from the wantonness of wit than of ill-nature, and whose very malice, from the fancy with which it is mixed up, like certain kinds of fireworks, explodes in sparkling.' This playful description may be allowed to apply with sufficient accuracy to the 'Rolliad'; but it is suggested, with deference, that it can hardly be considered applicable to the 'Anti-Jacobin,' which was so full of base personal invective, so coarse and even indecent, that it gave great offence to some of the minister's strongest supporters. Wilberforce always spoke out against it. 'I attacked Canning,' he says, 'about the 'Anti-Jacobin,' at dinner at Pitt's (Life of Wilberforce, ii. 334). The 'Rolliad' did expire in sparks; but the 'Anti-Jacobin' belonged to a different sort of fireworks, had more of an incendiary spirit in it, and might be more properly compared to a firebrand."

We as cordially agree in the high appreciation of the "Rolliad" as we differ from the depreciation of the "Anti-Jacobin"—a mine of wit and humour; and believing the writers to have entertained a firm conviction that they were combating a most dangerous system, we cannot feel disposed to slough them for putting some force and pith into their organ. With an empire in peril, to call on its defenders to be mealy-mouthed is a stretch of the canons of politeness beyond our limit. Mr. Bell, however adverse to its politics, does justice to its literature—here he can excuse a-I even admit the satire, which in the former instance he does not.

"The poem of 'New Morality' is on all hands ascribed to Mr. Canning; and his exclusive title to it appears to admit of little doubt. This satire, as the name implies, is aimed at the false philosophy of the day, but, hitting beyond its proposed mark as the theme rises, it strikes at the Duke of Bedford, Southey, Coleridge, Godwin, and several other minor celebrities. The passages which are clear of scornful personalities are written with that unmissable polish which at once declares the authorship; and even where he flings his arrowy contempt upon Thelwall, Williams, and the small fry of democratic agitators, we fancy we can still trace him in the refinement of the points. But it was not in weighty or savage satire that Mr. Canning's strength lay—the tomahawk of right belonged to the author of the 'Baviad' and 'Mæviad,' who wielded it with the rude force and ruder courage befitting such a weapon. Canning's more civilised taste delighted in handling lighter instruments; and the sphere of operations in this rampant journal was accordingly extended to accommodate him. It must be confessed there was a large field for ridicule in the literary as well as the political fashions of the day. The 'Sorrows of Werter' had done its work upon the maudlin tenderness of the English public; Darwin had transferred to the vegetable world the affected sensibility of the boarding-school; Southey was bringing out his English Sapphics; and Sheridan and Holcroft were doing their best to naturalise upon the English stage the false sentiment and bad fine writing of the German playwrights. Here were tempting topics for the 'Anti-Jacobin,' all legitimate topics too; coming in luckily enough to give an aspect of justice to its foul partisanship. So far as the literary offenders were concerned, the 'Anti-Jacobin' had not only justice on its side, but the thanks of every person of good taste. We may be assured it had no heartier reader—if we could find it out—than Fox himself, who despised all false styles, and must have enjoyed the good things of these slashing critics to the top of his bent, stopping short only at their politics, which were evil in thought and utterance. It would have been well if the writers had stopped there too."

Here we must break off for this week; but we shall return to the work in our next, for the purpose of noticing the more personal matters relating to the illustrious subject of the memoir.

THEATRICAL.

Memoirs of Joseph Grimaldi. Edited by Boz. A new Edition, with Notes, &c. by Charles Whitehead. 2 vols. in 1. London, Bentley.

This entertaining account of Joe Grimaldi, introducing us to many amusing dramatic incidents and anecdotes, besides chronicling a great deal of theatrical intelligence, has been considerably improved in all these respects by Mr. Whitehead. The work will, therefore, be yet more welcome than it was, though hitherto popular enough; and we select a few of the annotations, to shew what sort of interest has been added by the new Editor.

"The season of 1788, at Sadler's Wells, was one of no common interest. On Whitson Monday, May 12, in a musical piece, entitled 'Saint Monday; or, a Cure for a Scold,' Mr. Braham, then Master Abrahams, made his first appearance. He is named in the bills of August 18, but appears soon after to have left Sadler's Wells, and on the 30th of the same month, had a benefit at the Royalty Theatre, Well Street, near Goodman's Fields, as 'Master Braham,' when the celebrated tenor singer, Leoni, his master, announced that at the last time of his performing on the stage. Miss Shields, who appeared at Sadler's Wells in the same piece on Whitson Monday, became towards the end of May, Mrs. Leffler. Two Frenchmen, named Duranie and Bois-Maison, as pantomimists, eclipsed all their predecessors on that stage. Boyce, a distinguished engraver, was the harlequin, and by those who remember him, he is eulogised as the most finished actor of the motley who ever in his own day or since. On the benefit night of Joseph Dortor, clown to the rope, and Richer the rope-dancer, Miss Richer made her first appearance on two slack wires, passing through a hoop, with a pyramid of glasses on her head; and Master Richer performed on the tight rope, with a skipping-rope. Joseph Dortor, among other almost incredible feats, drank a glass of wine backwards from the stage-floor, beating a drum at the same time. Lawrence, the father of Joe's friend, Richard Lawrence, threw a sunset over twelve men's heads; and Paul Redigé, 'The Little Devil,' on October 1, threw a sunset over two seen on horseback, the riders having each a lighted candle on his head. Dubois, as clown to the pantomime, had no superior in his time; and the troop of voligeurs were pre-eminent for their agility, skill, and daring."

Grimaldi appears to have been much circumvented in his performances at the Wells in 1801. Dubois was clown in the harlequinades, and between him and Joe the comicities of the season appear to have been divided; the comic songs belonging by Dubois, Grimaldi, and Davis. Among the extraordinary events of this season was the appearance in June of the late distinguished tragedian, Edmund Kean, as 'Master Carey, the Boy of Nature,' who was announced to recite his celebrated address from the tragedy of *Timon*. There was something appropriate in his first appearance at the Wells: his great-grandfather Henry Carey, the illegitimate son of George Saville, Marquis of Halifax, and the avowed author and composer of the well-known ballad of 'Sally in the Alley,' wrote and composed many of the musical pieces for Sadler's Wells. Though often in great distress, and the author of many convivial songs, Harry Carey never employed his muse in opposition to the interests of morality. Poor Harry Carey, however, became at length the victim of poverty and despair, and hanged himself at his lodging in Warner Street, Clerkenwell, October 3, 1794. When found dead, he had but one halfpenny in his pocket. George Saville Carey was his posthumous child; at first a printer, he abandoned that calling for the stage, but his abilities did not ensure him success; and he became a beggar and associate with Moses Kean, in his imitations of popular actors, and Lectures on Mimicry. Carey had a daughter; and Moses Kean a brother, Edmund Kean, who made his first

appearance on the stage at the Royalty Theatre, September 9, 1788. Edmund Kean was the father of the tragedian; and Nancy Carey gave him birth at her father's chambers in Gray's Inn. His mother called herself 'Mrs. Carey,' and played first tragedy-woman at Richardson's booth at Bartholomew and other fairs: bills are extant announcing parts played by Mrs. Carey and Master Carey. Moses Kean, the uncle of the tragedian, was a tailor, with a wooden leg; a convivial but in no respect a dissipated character. He was the original of those who professed to give imitations of the leading players—Kean's of Henderson, as Hamlet in the grave scene, was inimitable. His death was premature and singular. He lived at No. 8 Upper St. Martin's Lane, near the Horse Repository, and was an admirer of fine scenery—the changes in the clouds, and the majestic splendour of the heavens. One evening, he ascended to the roof of his residence, to enjoy an uninterrupted view of the setting sun, when, rapt by the object before him and intent on the view, he lost his hold, fell into the street, and was killed. The tragedian's grandfather, George Saville Carey, like his father, died in great distress, July 14, 1807. After that period Master Carey adopted his father's name, Edmund Kean, and subsequently ennobled the British stage by his transcendent personifications of Othello, Sir Giles Overreach, Richard III., and other characters—a meteor of no prolonged duration, but the effulgence of which will be long remembered."

"Sadler's Wells opened on Easter Monday, April 11, 1803, under a change of proprietors. Mr. Hughes retained his fourth; Thomas and Charles Bidin had purchased Mr. Siddon's fourth for 1400*l.*; Barford and Yarnold had bought the fourth previously held by Mr. Thos. Arnold of the First-Fruit's Office; Mr. Reeve purchased the eighth, hitherto the property of Mr. Wroughton; and Mr. Andrews the eighth previously held by Mr. Coates. The season is memorable for the appearance on that stage of the celebrated traveller Signor Giambattista Belzoni, as the Patagonian Samson, in which character he performed prodigious feats of strength; one of which was to adjust an iron frame to his body, weighing 127 lbs., on which he carried eleven persons. On his benefit night he attempted to carry thirteen, but as that number could not hold on, it was abandoned. His stature, as registered in the books of the Alien Office, was six feet six inches. Poor Tom Ellar, in his Manuscripts, notices—"The first time I met Signor Belzoni was at the Royalty Theatre, on Easter Monday, 1808, my first appearance in London; the theatre closed after the fourth week. In September of the same year, I again met him at Saunders's booth in Bartholomew Fair, exhibiting as the French Hercules. In 1809, we were jointly engaged in the production of a pantomime at the Crow-Street Theatre, Dublin; I as harlequin, and he as an artist to superintend the last scene, a sort of hydraulic temple, which, owing to what is very frequently the case, the being over-anxious, failed, and nearly inundated the orchestra. Fiddlers generally follow their leader, and Tom Cooke was then the man; seeing the water, off he bolted, and they to a man followed him, leaving me, columbine, and the other characters to finish the scene, in the midst of a splendid shower of fire and water. Signor Belzoni was a man of gentlemanly but very assuming manners; yet of great mind." Such was Tom Ellar's opinion of that memorable man, whose celebrity afterwards as a traveller requires no record in this place."

"On Howard Payne's night, Oct. 5th, 1820, after T. Bidin's melodrama of 'Douglas,' followed a harlequinade, compiled by Grimaldi from the best scenes of the last popular pantomimes, entitled 'Scrapes; or, Fun for the Gallery.' Bologna, Guerint, Grimaldi, Young Grimaldi, Barnes, and Miss Vallancey, performed the parts; and the bills stated that, on this occasion, Mr. Grimaldi would appear for the last time this season, and introduce one of his most celebrated comic songs, and with

Mr. Bologna a grotesque dance, the pas-de-deux from 'Mother Goose.' C. M. Westmacott, who was scene-painter and composer of the pantomimes this season at Sadler's Wells, had also a benefit on October 11th, the bills for which invitingly asked the reader, 'Will you come for nothing?' The prices of admission were as usual; but to every person in the boxes and pit was presented an excellent portrait of Grimaldi, engraved after Wageman's drawing, by Blood; and to every person in the gallery a book of the songs of the evening."

THE MODERN BRITISH PLUTARCH.

The Modern British Plutarch; or, Lives of Men distinguished in the recent History of our Country, &c. By W. C. Taylor, LL.D. Pp. 405. London, Grant and Griffiths.

PLUTARCH is rather an ambitious but a good popular name for a book of this kind, which, within a small compass, gives brief memoirs of the lives of some forty eminent men deceased, of the last and present generation, including one great living individual, the Duke of Wellington. Of a number of these individuals biographies in large volumes have been published; and we should think that the shortest of their histories has been presented to the public at least twenty times the length of these abridged sketches. In a production of the sort we do not look for research beyond the most ready and accessible sources; and we are sorry, for the sake of biographical writings in general, to observe that such fountains rarely fail to produce a flood of errors, which only augment in their continuance, as they flow down the tide of years. Lord Eldon may be fairly concentrated from Twiss, Burke excellently from Prior, Burns poorly from Cunningham, Byron somehow from Moore, Scott decently from Lockhart, and others tolerably or intolerably from the publications of their amber-preservers, whether secretaries, near relatives, legatees, successors, heirs, or children; but when the *littérateur* has nothing to rely upon but the common oracles of the day, alas for the fidelity or truth of his portraiture of the Plutarchian characters with whom he has to deal!

At war with truth, reason, and facts all;
Misquoting, misdating,
Misplacing, mistating,
Here lies!

About nine-tenths of all the grave matters he has to reconstruct, remodel, and re-write as veritable, are as rank nonsense as ever adorned a Sunday or any other newspaper. Thus, in the present volume, we find the life of Canning, though drawn verbatim in pages from the same originals as Mr. Bell's, a tissue of misrepresentation: Sir J. Macintosh (referred to as happening to be fresh upon our memory), a barren and incorrect account of that able man. In the Wellington, the anecdote about "Up, guards, and at them!" is told as if it had never been contradicted; and, in short, Dr. Taylor himself appears to have been so well aware of the nature of his task, that his preface is an apology for its execution, and he, with a dry Irish humour, not to affect his just literary character, dubs himself "the Compiler."

But having said all this, we do not mean to infer that his miniatures *à la Plutarch* are not as well worth praise as most compositions of the kind that are published. They are all *ad captandum*. No bookseller in London would or could afford to pay for the careful investigation needed to make them better. *Fiat mistura* is the prescription; and the old blue, red, and green vials are only mixed more or less in the combination, according to the fancy of the literary pharmacopoeist. Dr. Taylor is a clever one, and he has made his drug as palatable for the general swallower as it could well be composed. It may pervert the appetite from wholesome food—it may disorder the public bowels by the repetition in a new and more solid form of what might be taken more innocuously, when administered lightly once a week, or occasionally evening or morning—but it comes to the same issue in

as far as realities and rigid truth are concerned. These are distorted visions; and all that can be said for them is, that very few biographers are any better.

Was Plutarch—the Plutarch—any better? His lessons of philosophy are so glorious, and of life so pregnant, that they apply to all nations and all ages. Men of every station may learn wonderful things from Plutarch, and men in particular stations may be guided to glory or infamy as they attend to him. Therefore we care not so much for his individual traits—whether they are fact or fiction. Had all been imaginary, it would have been the same grand thing. But when we come to contemporaneous events and actors, the want of the true and correct is a vital mischief. By erroneous construction the splendid leads to the mean, the brilliant to the dangerous, the sage to the contemptible. A fine and just analysis, as well as a strong judgment, is required to make the best use of materials attempted to be wrought into exemplary or national biography.

CAPTAIN KENNEDY'S ALGERIA.

[Second notice: conclusion.]

AN Arab wedding, in a high family, offered at least one incident of a novel nature, and curiously characteristic of the people:

"As soon as we had taken our stand in the front row, the music, which had ceased for a few minutes, struck up, and the lady in the midst commenced her performances; inclining her head languishingly from side to side, she beat time with her feet, raising each foot alternately from the ground with a jerking action, as if she had been standing on a hot floor, at the same time twisting about her body, with a slow movement of the hands and arms. Several others succeeded her, and danced in the same style, with an equal want of grace. A powerful inducement to exert themselves was not wanting, for one of them more than once received some tolerably severe blows, both from a stick and the flat of the sword; what the reason was I do not know, but suppose that either she was lazy or danced badly. While the dancing was going on the spectators were not idle; armed with guns, pistols, and blunderbusses with enormous bell mouths, an irregular fire was kept up. Advancing a step or two into the circle, so as to show off before the whole party, an Arab would present his weapon at a friend opposite, throwing himself into a graceful attitude, then suddenly dropping the muzzle at the instant of pulling the trigger, the charge struck the ground close to the feet of the person aimed at. After each report the women set up a long continued shrill cry of *lu-lu, lu-lu*, and the musicians redoubled their efforts. The advance of one man is usually the signal for others to come forward at the same time, all anxious to surpass their friends and neighbours in dexterity and grace. Ten or a dozen men being crowded into a small space, sometimes not more than six paces wide, brandishing their arms, and, excited by the mimic combat, firing often at random, it is not to be wondered at if accidents happen occasionally to the actors or bystanders. Among the most remarkable, a fine athletic youth had particularly attracted my attention by the ease and gracefulness of his movements. Each time he came forward, after loading, I had marked his excitement increasing, and now carried away by it, he seemed to forget the peaceful nature of the meeting, for, levelling his gun deliberately at the Arab standing next one of the French officers and myself, he fired with the muzzle within a couple of feet of his body; the man fell, rolled over and over, and lay as if dead. On examination of the wound, there was no fear to be entertained for his life, as he was hit near the hip, and a double fold of his bernous, which was burnt through, had deadened the force of the powder. It was nevertheless an ugly looking wound, as pieces of the woollen bernous and some grains of the coarse powder had been driven into the burnt flesh. The rest of the party did not care much about it, and the wounded

man's wife, instead of looking after her husband, rushed up to the man who had shot him, and, assisted by some female friends, opened upon him a torrent of abuse with such evident fluency of tongue and command of language, that, after endeavouring in vain to get in a word or two, he fairly turned tail and walked off. I asked in the evening how the wounded man was, and they answered that it would not signify, he would be well in a week or so. Ten minutes afterwards he came himself limping to our tent, evidently much more distressed at the serious injury his bernous had received, than at his own hurt, and exhibiting the big holes burnt in his garment with a most woebegone expression of countenance. The same rejoicings continued all the afternoon; and even when our numbers were increased by the return of the shooting party, no objections were made to our going to and fro as often as we pleased. It is the custom always to make a present to the musicians, which I understood was handed over to the bridegroom; so perhaps the five-franc piece given by each of us may have had some effect. The actual ceremonies of an Arab marriage are very simple. The young man having made his choice, the two fathers meet and settle what sum is to be paid for the bride; this important point arranged, a contract is drawn up and signed, the money paid, the bridegroom goes for his wife and brings her home. A divorce is a still easier matter; the husband gives his reason for desiring it (frequently a very trifling one), and the woman returns to her father, who, however, is entitled to keep the sum he originally received at the time of the marriage. Owing to their habits of life, the Arab women enjoy a greater degree of comparative liberty than falls to the lot of females of other Mahometan nations. Constantly employed in the severest domestic labour in the field, as well as at home, concealment of the person, as practised by the Moors and inhabitants of cities, is impossible in the douar, neither do they attempt it."

Our next extract relates a remarkable feat, and leads to an interesting communication:

"While drinking our coffee, we observed a boy who, leaning with folded arms upon a stick, watched every motion that we made. The boy's countenance was disgustingly repulsive, and the vacant yet cunning expression of his features, more those of a brute than of a human being, as well as the form of his misshapen head, stamped him as an idiot from his birth. A tattered bernous hung loosely on his shoulders, and, cold and wet as the evening was, he stood staring in at the entrance of the tent, while the other Arabs, whom curiosity had at first attracted, gathered round the fire a few yards distant. Knowing that the Arabs regard as saints, madmen, and those whose intellects are affected, I paid no more attention to him, and left the tent for a few minutes. When I returned, the boy was still there, fixed in the same attitude; and I was told that he had just made a display of his sanctity, by holding in his naked hand a live scorpion, and then eating it, without suffering in the least from its poisonous sting. As he was standing close to the tent, there could be no doubt but that he performed the disgusting feat of devouring the reptile, but I was rather incredulous as to the fact of the sting not having been removed. We were discussing this point, when, guessing that he was the object of our conversation, he went away, and returned almost immediately with another scorpion in his hand. Taking a piece of stick, I examined it most closely in his uncovered hand, and perfectly satisfied myself that it had not been deprived of its sting, or injured in any way. The scorpion was of a tolerable size—upwards of two inches long—quite lively, and able to inflict a very painful wound, the effects of which would be apparent almost instantly, and last for a considerable time. Standing over the boy, I watched him narrowly, to see that he did not pinch off the tail of the reptile, or play any trick; but, half raising his hand to his head, he put his mouth to his open palm, and I saw dis-

tinctly the scorpion writhing between his teeth as he took it up, and heard the crunching of its shelly covering, as he deliberately chewed, and then swallowed it. Neither his hands nor his mouth suffered in the slightest degree, and after a short interval he produced and ate another in the same way, which I also examined. The boy, since the early period when the infirmity of his mind became apparent, had been brought up a member of the religious sect of the Aisaoua, who claim the privilege, by the special gift of God to their founder, of being proof against the venom of reptiles, and the effects of fire. The present chief of the sect resides near Medeah, and his disciples are to be found scattered over the whole of Northern Africa; they are held in a certain degree of reverence, but do not possess much influence. Captain Martenet gave us these details, and referred me, for further information on the subject, to the following account of a grand festival of the Aisaoua, written by an officer, who was an eye-witness of the scenes he so graphically describes.

"In the court of a small Moorish house in the Rue de l'Empereur, Algiers, about sixty Arab and Moors were assembled. Four standards—one red and yellow, and the other three red and green—were suspended from the columns of the court, over the heads of the chiefs of the sect. These were the standards of the Marabout, Mohammed-ben-Aissa. In the middle, a long wax taper, placed in an old black chandelier, alone afforded light to the assembly, and cast its uncertain, glimmering rays into the gloomy corners of the building. The upper gallery was filled with women, covered with their white veils, leaving visible only their black eyes, and their eyebrows stained with henna. Bou-Chama, by whose invitation I attended the festival, remained by my side, and explained the origin of the religious sect to which he belonged, in nearly the following terms:—'Four or five hundred years ago a celebrated Marabout lived in the province of Oran. His name was Mohammed-ben-Aissa, and having succeeded in gathering together a certain number of disciples, he wandered with them over the face of the land, sometimes in the Tell, and at other times plunging into the wilds of the Sahara. One day, during his wanderings, he lost his way in the desert. The provisions were exhausted, and his faithful followers, sinking from weakness, were on the point of perishing with hunger, when Ben-Aissa, stretching his hands towards heaven, implored the mercy of the God of Mohammed. 'Lord,' cried he, 'thou alone art able to save us. Take pity upon us, and cause whatsoever we may touch to change for us into wholesome food.' At these words, seized with sudden inspiration, his disciples gathered stones, serpents, scorpions, &c., satisfied their hunger, and suffered no harm. We,' continued Bou-Chama, 'followers of this illustrious Marabout, have inherited the same privilege; and it is in commemoration of this miracle, and to perpetuate it, that we have now assembled together. By our prayers we obtain the cure of the sick, and draw down the mercies of heaven upon our newly-born children.' After these words Bou-Chama left me and joined his brethren; the rites were commencing. The prescribed ablutions having been performed, the Aisaoua, standing in meditative postures, recited eight times the Mussulman profession of faith—I bear witness that there is none other god than God, and that Mohammed is his prophet.' In their voices there was something grave and solemn, which was most impressive. The Mokaddam, or chief of the sect, then chanted a prayer for all Mussulmen, and called down upon them the benedictions of the prophet. At the end of each prayer the Mokaddam stopped, and the Aisaoua, lifting up their voices in turn, asked health for one, or the blessing of maternity for another; and the chorus then taking it up, addressed a prayer to God, in accordance with the favour demanded. Incense was every now and then thrown on a brazier of live coals, and the chorus repeated in a loud voice, 'Es-salah! Es-salah!' They then all seated

themselves in a circle, leaving a vacant space in the centre of the court. The Mokaddam and his chief assistants took their places opposite to me, and at their side a dozen Aïsaoua arranged themselves, each armed with an enormous tambourine, which they beat in cadence, while the chorus vociferated a song in honour of Ben-Aïssa. There was in these songs an undefinable spirit of frantic rage, which produced in me a certain impression of terror. I saw some of these fanatics roll enormous serpents in the hollow of their tambourines, while livid adders reared their hideous heads from the hoods of their bernous, and, dropping to the floor, glided over the marble as cold as themselves. In spite of the horror which I felt at this sight, curiosity got the better of my disgust, and I remained. I must confess, however, that my heart beat violently: the dim obscurity, the infernal music, the women, shrouded in their white veils, appearing like phantoms risen from the grave, all prepared my imagination for the horrid spectacle of a festival of the Aïsaoua. At the sound of this barbarous music, one of the party rushed into the circle with a frightful cry and extended arms, as if possessed by the evil one. He made the round several times, roaring hoarsely and savagely, then, as if compelled by a supernatural power, he began to dance to the sound of the tambourines and drums. He was then clothed in a white bernous, and his 'shasheah' (red woollen cap) being taken off, the long hair left on the top of an Arab's head fell over his shoulders. He then commenced his 'zeekr.' The zeekr is a species of religious dance, which consists in jerking the head from right to left, so that it touches the shoulders alternately. The whole body of the Aïsaoua was in motion, his eyes soon became red and bloodshot, and the veins of his neck blue and distended; nevertheless he continued his terrific dance. On a sudden two others rose up, and, with savage yells, joined the first. The three, excited by each other, redoubled their stampings and the motion of their heads, working themselves up into a state of frenzy impossible to describe. Now calling for red hot iron, small shovels, the broad part the size of the hand, with long iron handles, were given to them. Seizing each one, these enthusiasts, placing one knee on the ground, applied their hands, and even tongues, to the red hot metal. One of them, more madly excited than his companions, placed the brightest portion of the instrument between his teeth, and held it in that position for upwards of thirty seconds. Let not the reader think that I exaggerate; I witnessed all that I relate; and, in order to impress the scene stronger upon my memory, the performer of this last act placed himself directly opposite to me with a lighted taper in his hand. It is impossible for me to give a reason for what I saw, but I cannot disbelieve it; I smelt the stench of the burnt flesh, and when I afterwards touched their hands and feet, I found only a fresh and unburnt skin. The sight of one old man, nearly sixty-five years of age, gave me great pain; he grasped the red hot iron, and placing it on his leg, allowed it to remain there until a whitish smoke arose, which filled the whole house with its poisonous odour. These dances lasted, in this manner, for the space of an hour. Notwithstanding the noise produced by the songs and the tambourines, the painful rattle in the throats of these mad fanatics could be distinguished amidst the din; at last, exhausted by fatigue, they fell backwards, one after the other, and lay senseless and motionless on the ground; the songs ceased, and nothing broke the solemn silence but the sound of their heavy breathings. A man, whose task it was to attend the half-dead wretches, now advanced, and placing his foot successively on the pit of their stomachs, pressed their sides strongly, kneaded their limbs, and caused them to revive. The dance recommenced; four fresh Aïsaoua rushed into the circle, and were soon in the same state of frenzy as their predecessors, striking their heads with the red-hot shovels, and stamping upon them with their naked feet.

Then, in their delirium, imagining that they were transformed into camels and lions, they uttered the cries of the animals they represented, and feigned a combat between them: their mouths foamed and their eyes sparkled with rage. The Mokaddam now presented to them a leaf of cactus, of which the thorns, an inch in length and sharp as a needle, made me tremble. At this sight the combat ceased; the Aïsaoua threw themselves upon the cactus, they tore and ground it between their teeth, making the air resound with a hoarse noise resembling the horrid cries of an enraged camel. At this moment the women, placed in the upper gallery, raised their dismal cry of *lu-lu, lu-lu, lu-lu*.

"This frightful scene was only the prelude to all the horrors I was about to witness. Towards eleven o'clock the songs ceased, and coffee and couscous were brought in, of which I found it impossible to partake. The repast over, they recited a prayer before recommencing their dance; and on the musicians beginning to strike their enormous tambourines, seven or eight of the disciples rose, howling dreadfully, and, dressed in white, like their predecessors, began to perform the zeekr. My acquaintance, Bou-Chama, was of this party; and taking a bundle of small wax tapers, he placed first his hand, and then his arm, face, and neck, in the flames. His features, when thus lit up, as they appeared from one moment to another through the varying flames, had quite a demoniacal appearance. In the mean time, a negro had amused himself by placing live coals in his mouth, which, as he breathed, burnt brightly, and sent forth a thousand sparks. Without having been there, it is impossible to realise the terrific sight I had before my eyes. Opposite me, within two paces, was the negro, whose glowing mouth displayed itself in a black and hideous face; his head, with its single lock of crisp woolly hair, vibrating rapidly from side to side; and around me the hellish music, the convulsive stampings, and the frightful cries of the dancers. The negro was now in a state of the most furious excitement. Swallowing the still burning contents of his mouth, he seized a large scorpion, full of life and venom; placing it on his arm, he irritated the reptile in every possible manner, pinching it, putting it near the taper, and burning one of its claws. The enraged animal darted his sting into the offered hand; the negro smiled, and, raising the scorpion to his mouth, I heard it crack between his teeth; and, as he swallowed it, I turned my head aside in horror. The reader, perhaps, supposes that the scorpion was deprived of his sting; but I had ocular demonstration to the contrary; nay, more, I might have brought one from the Boudjareeah myself, and given it with my own hand, as many have done who have been admitted to these 'Hadarah.'

"A yatagan was now brought, the point wrapped in a handkerchief, and two men held it horizontally about three feet from the ground. On seeing this, a man rose from his seat and commenced his zeekr; then, uncovering his breast, he sprang with all his weight on the naked blade: it seemed as if his body would have been cut in two by such a blow. He remained, however, with his bare breast on the sharp edge of the sabre, balancing himself with his feet, in an horizontal position, and tranquilly continuing his zeekr. Meanwhile the four other Aïsaoua continued their furious dance, beating their heads with the iron shovels brought to a red heat. To these, three others soon joined themselves, grasping in each hand a living adder, with which they struck their bodies. As they danced, the serpents wound themselves about their limbs, hissing horribly. Then seizing them, some placed them in their mouths, so as only to permit the head of the reptile to escape: one even forced the adder to bite his tongue, and, leaving it thus suspended, continued his dance. Others squeezed them between their teeth, to increase their rage; and the irritated reptiles, in their desperate struggles to escape, twined around

their necks, and, hissing, reared themselves above the heads of their tormentors. Excited by the spectacle before their eyes, and by the increasing noise of the music, the Aïsaoua rose in a body and rushed to take a part in the dance. Then commenced a scene which words cannot describe. Twenty Aïsaoua, clothed in white bernous, with dishevelled hair and haggard eyes, mad with excitement and fanaticism, bathed in sweat, and grasping serpents in their hands, stamping, dancing, and convulsively shaking their heads, each starting vein swollen and distended with blood. The women, like phantoms, assisting in this scene, lit only by a pale and solitary taper, uttered in a piercing tone their shrill cries of *lu-lu, lu-lu, lu-lu*. This, mixed with strange songs, hoarse sounds, and the hollow rattle in the throat of each Aïsaoua, as he fell exhausted and senseless, formed altogether a scene so totally repulsive to human nature, that it seemed, in truth, a feast of hell. Such dreadful exertions could not, however, last long: by degrees the number of dancers diminished, as one after another they sank under the fatigue, and their panting bodies strewed the marble pavement of the court. The feast of the Aïsaoua was over."

With this long specimen we finish our notice. The return of the travellers to Algiers, their visit to Bona and Tunis, the historical account of the Kabiles or Berbers, and other matters treated of, not furnishing us with aught which we could consider to be of sufficient novelty or importance to occupy our page. From what we have done, we think it will be seen that the publication is exactly what we have pictured; viz. the frank exposition of a light, slight, and pleasant excursion, over a country from which the latest intelligence must, from the nature of the case, be generally acceptable.

ANGLO-NORMAN LITERATURE.

[Biographical Britannica Literaria: Second notice.]

THREE weeks ago we hailed the appearance of this work by Mr. Thomas Wright, under the auspices of the Royal Society of Literature, and we expressed ourselves very highly satisfied with its scholarly execution, its new information, and its research and labour in ascertaining and stating all the essentials which could be elucidated in respect to the period of literature of which it undertook to explore and expound. The severe test laid down in the second paragraph of our review (p. 257, col. 1) would defy any author, or combination of authors, that ever existed to steer altogether clear of a liability to be charged with sins of commission and omission; and in ancient lore especially it is much easier to find a hole or make a flaw than to produce a whole, sound, ringing kettle, full of unassailable worth and value. But we are offering no apology for this volume: it requires none, and we rejoice to know that the opinion we expressed of it is confirmed by the ablest of our contemporaries whose authority is acknowledged by the world. Thus fortified, we cheerfully resume our task of selecting some of its prominent parts—the Anglo-Norman poets, promised in our last notice, supplying the first reminiscences, and correcting the innumerable errors of the work of the Abbé de la Rue and others on this subject. But the following would make the fortune of a biographical dictionary:

"Lanfranc stands justly at the head of the Anglo-Norman period of our literary history, not only for the high position which he held in the state under William the Conqueror, but because he may be considered the father of Latin literature in England during the ages which followed. He was a native of Lombardy, his parents being of senatorial rank in the city of Pavia, and was born about the year 1005. Although from his childhood Lanfranc was destined to the bar, his thirst for learning was displayed at an early age, and, after exhausting the means of instruction in his native city, he left it to visit the more famous universities of Italy. Having made himself master of all the sciences then taught, he returned to Pavia, and practised

as a pleader in the court with great success. But the ambition which distinguished Lanfranc through life, and which was ill concealed by the outward modesty and self-restraint which his biographers ascribe to him, led him to desert the profession of the law for one which offered higher distinctions; he crossed the Alps, passed through France into Normandy, and opened a school at Avranches." [His future course is faithfully traced.]

"Anselm, like his predecessor Lanfranc, was a native of Italy. He was born at Aosta, in Piedmont, at the foot of the Graia Alps, about the year 1033. His parents held an honourable rank in society; for his mother, Ermenberga, appears to have been distantly related to the counts of Maurienne, the ancestors of the ducal house of Savoy. His father, Gundulf, was descended from a noble Lombard family, and had settled at Aosta, where he married Ermenberga. They possessed a moderate fortune; but it required all the prudence of Anselm's mother, who was a careful housekeeper, to preserve it from the effects of his father's extravagance. It appears that Gundulf was a man of violent temper, and that his life was somewhat irregular, until, at the approach of death, he took the habit of a monk. Anselm, in his childhood, imbibed religious sentiments from the teaching and example of his mother, and exhibited an early taste for learning. His father discouraged the child in his pursuits; and when, at the age of fifteen, Anselm ventured to declare his wish to embrace a monastic life, the anger of the parent was so strongly expressed that the youth determined to quit his home and country, and throw himself upon the wide world. He left home secretly, in company with a domestic chaplain, who perhaps had encouraged the design, and they loaded an ass with a sack containing a small stock of provisions. These failed them when they were passing over Mount Cenis; they were compelled to melt snow in their mouths to quench their thirst, and Anselm became so weary and faint that he was unable to proceed. A small loaf, unexpectedly found in a corner of the sack, gave him courage and strength to continue his way, and enabled them to reach the bounds of these inhospitable regions. Of the next three years of Anselm's life we only know that they were spent, perhaps fruitlessly, partly in Burgundy and partly in France. It does not appear how he was occupied during this period, but in the course of his wanderings he arrived at Avranches, and there he first heard of the fame of his countryman Lanfranc and the school of Bec.

"The eagerness after learning which had distinguished Anselm in his childhood now returned, and he hastened to Bec to place himself under Lanfranc's tuition. He devoted himself to his studies with wonderful perseverance, scarcely quitting his books by night or by day, and often forgetting his meals. When Lanfranc at length made him a partner in his labours, and entrusted to him the instruction of others, Anselm shewed little taste for this occupation: he preferred solitude and meditation to an active life; and after much doubting as to where and how he should take the habit, and after consulting with Lanfranc and with Maurilius archbishop of Rouen, he became a monk in the abbey of Bec, in the twenty-seventh year of his age (A.D. 1060). Still Anselm was not allowed to remain inactive; for when Lanfranc was made abbot of Caen (not, as commonly supposed, in 1063, but in 1066), Anselm was chosen to succeed him as prior of Bec, an office which he held till abbot Herluin's death in 1078, when he was further raised to be his successor. As monk and prior, Anselm was distinguished so much by his piety and virtues, that his brethren believed him to be possessed of the power of working miracles. At his election to fill this office, the other monks were jealous at seeing so young a man passed over their heads; but he gradually conciliated them by the gentleness of his temper. He was indefatigable in teaching and in attending

to the spiritual welfare of those committed to his care. At the same time he found abundant leisure for study and meditation; for it was during this period that he composed the greatest portion of his works, including the 'Monologion' and the 'Proslogion,' the tract against Gaunilo, the treatises 'De Veritate,' 'De Casu Diaboli,' 'De Libertate Arbitrii,' and 'De Grammatico,' and his 'Meditations.' With these works his fame spread not only through Normandy, France, and Flanders, and the surrounding countries, but he was well known in England, and added to the reputation as well as to the riches of his abbey."

A remarkable dream-story is connected with the next:

"Robert, Bishop of Hereford.—Among the more distinguished of King William's foreign bishops was Robert of Hereford, a native of Lorraine, whence he is sometimes called Robertus Loringa. After having made great progress in natural and mathematical science, he is said to have taught for some time in the schools in Flanders. He was brought to England, with other scholars, by King William, some time after the Conquest, and appears to have settled at Worcester, where he was ordained a priest by Bishop Wulstan, with whom, during the remainder of that prelate's life, he lived on terms of the warmest friendship. In 1079 Robert was chosen to fill the vacant see of Hereford, to which he was consecrated by Lanfranc on the 29th of December. During the petty wars on the Welsh border, the cathedral of Hereford had been reduced almost to a heap of ruins, and one of Robert's first cares was to rebuild it in a style worthy to contain the shrine of St. Ethelred. He took for his model the church of Aix-la-Chapelle, which had been originally built by Charlemagne. Wulstan spent much of his leisure in the society of Bishop Robert; and it is related, as a proof of their affectionate regard for each other, that, when Wulstan lay on his deathbed at the beginning of the year 1095, Robert, who was attending the court, dreamt that his friend came to tell him of his approaching end, and to request that he would hasten to Worcester to see him before he died, or at least to give the directions for his funeral. Robert obeyed the call; but when he had nearly reached the end of his journey, he again saw Wulstan in a dream, who told him that he was already dead; he added, that Robert should prepare for his own death, as he would not long survive him, and that, in testimony of the truth of this prediction, he would receive a gift in remembrance of their friendship, which he would immediately recognise. After having performed the last duties to his friend, as Robert was mounting his horse to depart, the prior of Worcester came to offer him Wulstan's favourite cap, lined with lamb's wool; he recognised the sign which Wulstan had promised him, went soon afterwards to Hereford, and died there on the 26th of June following. Bishop Robert was one of the prelates who took part most decidedly with the king against Archbishop Anselm, in the council of 1095, a short time before his own death. Robert was looked upon as one of the most distinguished men of science of the latter part of the eleventh century; and it is said that he excelled in the knowledge of the abacus, of the lunar computus, and of the courses of the celestial bodies."

"Guiscard or Guichard de Beaulieu.—This writer has been hitherto known only by a poem of some length which in the manuscript is entitled the 'Sermon of Guiscard de Beaulieu.' He tells us that he had passed his youth in secular enjoyments, until, disgusted with the vanities of the world, he had retired to a monastery; and his 'Sermon' is a long satire against the vices of the age. A contemporary (or nearly contemporary) writer has, however, preserved an interesting account of Guiscard de Beaulieu, not hitherto noticed. Walter Mapes informs us that Guiscard was a man of wealth, distinguished for his valour; that in his old age he had surrendered his estates

to his son Imbert, and not only assumed the habit of a monk of the order of Cluny, but became a poet in his own language, the French or Anglo-Norman, and was distinguished as 'the Homer of the laity.' Subsequently, when his son, by the violence of his enemies and his own want of courage, had been expelled from his paternal possessions, Guiscard returned for a time to the world, assumed his arms, reinstated him, and then retired again to the cloister, where he remained till his death. From the manner in which he is here spoken of, we ought probably to consider Guiscard as living in the reign of Stephen, and dying early in that of Henry II. The Abbé de la Rue supposed that our trouvère took his name from the circumstance of his being a monk in the priory of Beaulieu in Bedfordshire, founded early in the twelfth century as a dependent on the great abbey of St. Alban's. This was not, however, a house of Cluniac monks; and from the account just cited from Walter Mapes, I am inclined to think that he must have belonged to some other abbey, and that Beaulieu was the family name. The words of the writer just mentioned would lead us to believe that Guiscard had written more than one poem. The 'Sermon' is, however, all that is now known of his compositions. It is preserved in a manuscript of the twelfth century in the British Museum, and (in a mutilated form) in a manuscript of the Royal Library at Paris, from which last copy an edition was published by M. Jubinal. The 'Sermon of Guiscard de Beaulieu' is written in the same kind of versification which characterises most of the earlier metrical romances, and of which we have had an example in the 'Chanson de Roland,' the assonance of Turold being, however, exchanged for more perfect rhymes. The style bears marks of much greater poetical talent than is observed in the poems of Everard and Samson de Nanteuil, and frequently exhibits considerable elegance and energy of expression. We select the following lines, both as a fair specimen of the whole and as preserving a curious trait of the religious belief of the age:

'Chascuns heom covient ke bien se seit purvent; Kar il i ad dous compaignunz ki mult sunt fiers et durs: L'un est l'angle des ciels, et l'autre des perdus. Dirrai vos de chascun cum deit estre creuz; E li bons careris nos biens et sus tuz verus. Et li mals nos pecher les grans et les meurs. Entre eux nen ad ja pais, tut tens sunt irascus: L'un volt nostre damage, bien en seer seuz, Et l'autre est curius coment il fust vengus, Co est par bons orres deit estre confundes. A celu vos tenez dut serrez meintenus. Devant Deu vos merrai, li serrez bien veuz. Quant il bons est sauls et l'autre est mal peuz, Quant il est vestus, li colverez est tut meuz. L'un volt bons vestimens, garmens aguz, Destriers bien enselez, et palefrais tundus, Escus point à or, espées esmuluz, E mantels trainans de grant palles tenduz: Dunc serrai par cos tuz amez et conuz, Ki sivre le volidrai, celui serrez ses druz; Ja certes ki l'errera devant Deu n'ert veuz, De cels dit escripture à ben prof sunt perdus. Bon conseil en dirrai, se jo en ere creuz, Trestut duner à povres, à mesels, et à muz, Et faire punz sur ewes, dunt fust meintenus. Eglises et musters à Dës fust conuz. Ki ren dune par Deu, mult par i ad ben vendus; Quant mester aurt, trestut li est rendus. Cil ki ben fait pur s'alme, à sei sul rend saluz.'

Geoffrey of Monmouth.—In addition to what we quoted concerning this popular writer in our previous notice, the following remarks appear worthy of selection:—"In spite of the judgment of the sober historians of the age in which it was published, Geoffrey's history became extensively popular, and there are few other works of which so great a number of copies exist in manuscript. He had, unknowningly perhaps, wandered from the domain of history into that of romance, which was more agreeable to the taste of his time. His book was soon translated into Anglo-Norman, into English, and even into Welsh, and each successive translator added to his original from other legends or from his own imagination. Within a century after its first publication, it was generally adopted by writers on English history; and during several centuries

only one or two rare instances occur of persons who ventured to speak against its veracity. The beautiful stories with which it abounds became the foundation of a considerable portion of the national literature, and its author has thus obtained a place among the classical writers of our island."

Mr. Wright quotes his history of King Lear, to show that his latinity was not above that of the common writers of his age.

"*Alfred of Beverley*.—This author derives his chief importance from the dispute which has arisen whether he preceded or came after Geoffrey of Monmouth. Historians and bibliographers have all fixed at too early a date the period when Alfred of Beverley compiled his history. All that we know of his life is derived from his own writings. It is probable that he was born about the beginning of the twelfth century; for he states, at the commencement of his book, that the colony of Flemings had been planted in the neighbourhood of Ross on the borders of Wales by King Henry I., in his time—an event which is considered to have taken place about A.D. 1105. He tells us that in the days of 'his silence,' when the diocese of York laboured under an interdict, and the clergy were not allowed to perform their ecclesiastical duties, he tried to occupy his forced leisure, and turn away his thoughts from the vexations with which he was encompassed to the study of history, and from this circumstance he derived his taste for historical researches. There cannot be the least doubt that Alfred refers to the troubles which arose in the diocese of York from the rivalry of the two archbishops, Henry and William, supported severally by the contending parties in the civil convulsions of the reign of Stephen. This dispute, which began in 1141 or 1142, causing the diocese to be placed under an interdict, only ended with the death of Archbishop William, who was poisoned, as it is said, by his clergy in 1154. While occupied with his historical researches, it appears that the history of Geoffrey of Monmouth was published, and began to create a great sensation. Alfred, hearing people talk of British kings of whom he was entirely ignorant, and ashamed to be obliged continually to confess that he knew nothing about them, became anxious to obtain a sight of the new history, and with much difficulty succeeded. He perused it with avidity; and, charmed with the novelty of its contents, he would have made a transcript of it for himself, if he had been allowed sufficient time and had possessed money enough to buy the materials at once; but this not being the case, he determined to make an abridgment of it. Alfred, like Gaimar, does not mention the name of Geoffrey of Monmouth as the author of the book he abridged; but he quotes it by the title which Geoffrey gave to it, '*Historia Britonum*,' and no one who has read over the two books can doubt for a moment that Geoffrey's history was the original, for Alfred often transfers Geoffrey's words to his own book. It appears quite clear, from the manner in which Alfred speaks, that all that was known about this history originated in the work of Geoffrey, and that it was quite new even to historians, and on that account had excited much curiosity. Alfred goes on to inform us that, having abridged the history of the Britons, he determined to abridge other historians, so as to continue his book through the Saxon and Norman times. We trace as having gone through this process, among others, Bede, Florence of Worcester, and the northern writer, Simon of Durham, which historians appears to have been the last he used, for Alfred's history closes in the same year with that of Simon, A.D. 1129, the twenty-ninth year of Henry I. Many writers, believing that he continued his history to the end of his life, have fixed upon that year as the date of his death, which probably did not take place till the reign of Henry II. We only know that he was a monk of Beverley; the titles in the earlier manuscripts are unanimous that he was treasurer of that church, or, as one manuscript called him, *acerista*, which was but another name for the same office. Some modern writers have advanced the opinion, directly opposed to the historical evidence, that the title of treasurer was given him only as a literary honour, because his book is a *treasure* of history, which it certainly is not. His historical notices are extremely brief, and his style is that of the ordinary writers of his age."

The Queen's Lieges. 4 vols. London, Newby. THESE four volumes are filled with the oft-told tale of Inez de Castro, which real romance, poem, play, and novel, have celebrated again and again. *The Queen's Lieges* presents nothing different from its primogenitors to render this narrative more immortal. The simple facts alone of the coronation, homage, &c., to the long-dead Inez are points of history, and as such will survive the hundred ephemeral fabrics of which they form the base. This present work belongs to the middling class of romances, read to-day, forgotten to-morrow; being undistinguished by any chapter, passage, or sentence very good or very bad.

Churton's English County Calendar.

A LATE issue, when one quarter of the year is gone; but for the other three, replete with useful information.

A Grammar of the Latin Language. By C. G. Zumpt, Ph.D., Berlin. Translated and adapted for English Students by L. Schmitz, Ph.D. Pp. 602. London, Longmans.

THIS elementary work has, we believe, been highly successful in Germany; and it is spoken of in England as a valuable assistant to classical studies.

The Life of Herodotus, drawn out from his Book. By Prof. Dahlmann, of Bonn; translated by G. V. Cox, M.A. Pp. 173. London, J. W. Parker. THIS volume justifies all that our German correspondent said in the *Literary Gazette*, three weeks ago, relating to the pains generally taken by German writers to make themselves thoroughly masters of their subjects before they ventured to publish upon them. Yet this book cannot, correctly speaking, be considered a biography of the immortal Greek historian; for, in point of fact, he has not furnished materials for it. But it is a learned treatise, rectifying many traditional and erroneous points respecting Herodotus, and incidentally (as it were by episodes) laying before the reader very interesting historical and classical information. The critical remarks are extremely judicious, and much scholarly learning is displayed throughout.

The Æneid of Virgil, with English Notes. By C. Anthon, LL.D., New York. Edited by J. R. Mayor, D.D., Head Master of King's College School, London. J. W. Parker.

THE accurate and indefatigable services to literature for which both sides of the Atlantic are indebted to Dr. Anthon, are referred to by his learned editor in a preface to this reprint. His most comprehensive elaboration of the best commentators for this work renders it the most excellent edition of the *Æneid* which could be put into the hands of students.

The Living and the Dead: a Course of Practical Sermons on the Burial-Service. By F. E. Paget, M.A., Rector of Elford. Pp. 358. Cambridge, Walters; London, Rivingtons.

MR. PAGET is an indefatigable preacher and publisher of sermons. This volume ranges on the subject of utmost mortal interest.

Narrative of Makrena Mieczyslawska, of Seven Years of Persecution suffered by the Basilian Nuns of Minsk, &c. Pp. 79. London, D. Bogue.

THIS frightful story has been making a great noise all over the Continent, where the journals hostile to Russian politics and the Emperor Nicholas have stirred up popular passions by relating and dwelling upon its atrocities. Its truth has been denied, and reasserted, and questioned and affirmed, just as it suited the views of parties, *pro* or *con*, to have it credited or disbelieved. It was an element in

the Polish insurrection; and this will account for its appearance and reception. For the sake of human nature, we are inclined to think it too horrible to be true; and though there is no atrocity too monstrous to be inconsistent with the history of religious persecution, there is, we think, something in the matter, manner, and period, of this revelation which is likely to startle the good, solid, common-sense of John Bull. For a bloody romance or drama, the materials and details are perfect.

A Railway Traveller's Reasons for adopting Uniformity of Gauge: addressed to I. K. Brunel, Esq. 4to, pp. 24. London, J. Cundall.

THE writer, in a temperate argumentative manner, lays it down that uniformity of gauge throughout the country is imperative; that this is impracticable if the broad gauge be adopted; that the narrow gauge is capable of the greatest speed, and that too by means of the Atmospheric (see *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1523, for experiments with this power); and that concord between the rival gauges is impossible, and the break of gauge a source of irremediable delays and inconveniences.

A Practical Treatise on the Law of Auctions, &c. By Joseph Bateman, LL.D. Pp. 358. A. Maxwell and Son.

A THIRD edition, with the latest alteration in the law, and we should think a most useful book for auctioneers, with some information not useless to purchasers.

The Hand-Book of Needlework. By Miss Lambert. London, Murray.

THE fourth edition of "stitch, stitch, stitch!" Our ladies seem to have adopted for pastime the constant needling of the poor for food. We trust their industry is better rewarded. At any rate, they have here a most accomplished guide.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

March 26th.—The Marquess of Northampton, president, in the chair. The following paper was read: "On the muscularity of the iris," by Prof. Maunoir, of Geneva. The author has satisfied himself, from the result of his own dissections, as well as from the concurrent testimony of a great number of anatomists, that the iris is provided with two sets of muscular fibres, the one orbicular, immediately surrounding the pupillary margin, and acting as a sphincter; the other extending in a radiated direction from the exterior circumference of the former to their insertions into the ciliary ligaments; their action being to enlarge the pupil. One-fourth of the disc of the iris is occupied by the orbicular, and the remaining three-fourths by the radiated muscle. The author has examined the structure of the iris in a great number of animals; and stated the results obtained by M. Lebert, to whom he applied on this occasion, from numerous dissections of the eyes of animals belonging to each class of vertebrata. He also referred to a work which he published in the year 1812, entitled *Memoir sur l'Organisation de l'Iris*, for evidence of the muscularity of the iris, which he obtained by applying galvanism to the human eye immediately after decapitation; and he concluded with the narrative of the case of a woman in whose iris there had been formed, by an accidental wound with the point of a knife, a triangular aperture below the pupil. This aperture became dilated when the pupil was contracted, and *vice versa*; thus furnishing a proof that its movements were effected by muscular action.

THE MARQUESS OF NORTHAMPTON'S SOIRÉE.

THE fourth and last, on Saturday, was crowded. There were but few novelties, although many objects of interest to engage attention: and conversation was the order of the evening. Amongst the former may be mentioned models illustrating the history of the steam-engine; wax or composition coloured representations of Argaraci, exhibi-

ted by Mr. Tenant, and exceedingly natural: specimens of kamptulicon, a mechanical combination of India-rubber and cork, for matting; instead of felt, under the copper of ships; for the construction of life-boats, &c.: another new instrument of Mr. Perigal's, for the practical development of

ANOTHER NEW LAW OF COMPOUND MOTION,

and proving that the parabola occurs as a branch, or component part, of a great variety of curves. This he showed by a modification of Professor Wheatstone's photometer; the curve selected being a trichoidal curve of eight symmetrical loops, which became eight cusped branches, or eight hyperbolic, or eight parabolic branches, &c., varying according to the radial adjustment of the bright steel ball representing a comet or planet; which, in this case, always moved in one and the same direction, instead of alternating in opposite directions, as in the experiment exhibited at the previous *soirée*. Mr. Perigal explained that, besides multitudes of other kinds, there are innumerable varieties of this particular kind of curve, having any imaginable number of symmetrical branches, approximating more or less nearly to the ellipse and parabola; in other words, that these are curves of which the ellipse, the hyperbola, and parabola, are limits or particular cases.

It seems to result, then, from these experiments, that it is not impossible for comets to return periodically, either forward and backward alternately, or always in the same direction, although moving in "curves which cannot be distinguished from parabolas;" quite as possible, indeed, as if they moved in elongated ellipses. (The consideration of the forces requisite to maintain them in such orbits is of course a totally distinct question.) That is to say there is nothing in the nature or properties of the curve itself to render its periodical return impossible, now that the attribute of infinity, ascribed to the curve, is no longer admissible, except to express only the extreme or limit of the curve; just as a straight line may be imagined capable of infinite extension, but nevertheless may be drawn of any requisite degree of shortness, and is still a right-line whether infinitely short or infinitely long; both expressions being infinitely worthless philosophically, if not mathematically.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

March 27th.—Dr. L. Playfair,—"On the bulks of bodies, and the nature of the differences between unlike forms of the same body, such as diamond, graphite, and coke,"—stated his object to be to explain a point in generalisation to support an abstract law; the result of some years' researches, by himself and Mr. Joule (see *Literary Gazette*, No. 1520, p. 221). Of all physical properties, he said, specific gravity is the most important. Yet we are ignorant of its cause; nor do we know whether there is any relation between the differences in weight of bulks of charcoal and iron, for instance; nor whether there is any law by which the specific gravity of any substance may be calculated. Gay-Lussac established the law of volume for gases,—that gas combines with gas, bulk for bulk; or a multiple, but no fraction of a bulk. Several investigators have pursued the similar inquiry in regard to liquids and solids. Amongst the principal may be mentioned (and each with certain progress, did space permit), Thomson, Dumas, Kopp, and Schröder; but all failed in generalisation, or in discovering a law. Dr. Playfair and Mr. Joule took as their standard point of comparison, 9 grains of water, which expands in freezing to 9.8, and in this they thought to find the general relation of the bulks of all bodies. At length they divided the bulk of ice into 8 parts; one-eighth (a half in every way linear dimension of a cube) corresponding to 1.225. This eighth they discovered to be the primitive bulk or volume, and that all solid substances whatever are a multiple of this bulk; and hence the calculation for specific gravity is simple.

Dr. Playfair proceeded to proof; he exhibited and explained an ingenious instrument to take specific gravities, formerly only to be arrived at by three delicate weighings. It was a bulb and stem of glass graduated into water-grain measures. This filled to zero with turpentine, and the substance weighed and put into it, shews by the rising of the turpentine the relation of the substance to water. Now whatever substance be introduced, it never takes up a fraction of a measure, always a multiple; there is no chance bulk, therefore no chance space; a primitive bulk there is, but no fraction of it. This obtains also in substances of like constituents, classed under the titles dimorphism or polymorphism, hitherto undefinable, and explains their differences. Diamond, charcoal, and graphite, belong to this order of bodies. All are varieties of the same matter, having different specific gravities, but heretofore there has been no explanation why one should be diamond, another charcoal, and another graphite. Examples of dimorphism—calcareous spar and arragonite, iron pyrites and cockscomb spar, &c.—were given, and an instance shewn of a visible alteration of state, iodide of mercury turning from red to yellow under the influence of heat, without any real change of composition; for by agitating the particles, the arrangement is again altered, and the red colour restored. Why these differences should be, or what the cause, was not known; but now no longer empirical, but harmonious and explicable. The three bodies in the title will suffice as an example, though numerous others were cited; and the following brief table will assist comprehension. Let us premise, however, that Messrs. Playfair and Joule state that charcoal consists of 5 of the primitive bulks; graphite, 4; and diamond, 3; and that the tabular comparison of experiment and theory takes for the first two columns results established by other experimenters.

	Sp. gr. exp.	Vol. exp.	No. of vol.	Vol. theory.	Sp. gr. theory.
C.	2	6.12	5	6.12	2
G.	2.5	4.9	4	4.9	2.5
D.	3.5	3.5	3	3.67	3.33

The laws of bulks, however, do not end here; they extend to liquids and solutions, and generally the same multiple of 9 obtains in liquids as of 9.8 in solids. Sugar in solution is a strange exception; as also alum, phosphate of soda, &c.; but we can only take the first example. The constitution of sugar was given $C^{10}H^{11}O^{11}$; the latter two in proportion to form 11 portions of water. In solution, then, we ought to get, and do get, 99 grains: but where is the carbon gone? Thirty unit volumes—where are they? Dr. Playfair would be glad to have this answered. It evidences an extraordinary disappearance of matter, as though matter possessed a power of sinking, occupying space no more. Take sugar in the solid state, and suppose the hydrogen and oxygen ice: sugar, according to the new views, is ice; and the carbon holds no space in it! Can we, then, Dr. Playfair asked, agree to the idea of matter consisting of impenetrable nuclei? No: or how could these bulks disappear? Matter, as ordinarily conceived, he was inclined to interpret as qualities, and to think that such matter had very little to do with this question; and that we had to deal only with centres of force, according to the views of Prof. Faraday.

April 3d.—Professor Faraday, "On Professor Wheatstone's electro-magnetic chronoscope," preface his discourse with an apology for presenting himself without any pretension as to matter or preparation. He had responded to the call of the indefatigable secretary, Mr. Barlow, whose best arrangements circumstances will sometimes subvert: as they had on the present occasion in the case of Mr. Napier, who had been prevented giving his promised illustration. To all, however, who know the readiness with which Mr. Faraday has ever been the cheerful volunteer and able and willing substitute on similar accidents, and who have frequently been gratified by his impromptu, the apology was a mere form. The Friday-evening dis-

quisitions and illustrations have often been delightfully varied by a "desultory discourse" by Mr. Faraday, and this was "the spirit of the evening." The matter he described as important. It is, he said, of great advantage to measure accurately intervals of time, as by astronomical clocks, but also smaller intervals, in the measuring of which our senses interfere. This interference was illustrated by knife-grinding; the sparks flying off appearing to the eye lines of fire: by the form of flame, a glowing, dancing thing; clouds of flame, flickering, waving, lambent; without the impression of past events, a tongue of fire; and by the like retention of sensation on the retina, beautifully turned to account by Wheatstone, in the revolution of a disc divided into colours, seen altogether while revolving, and appearing white. Thus, then, are we cheated by our senses out of the true observations. And as proof, and to remove false impressions, the revolving wheel was exhibited to the audience under temporary lights; a flash of gunpowder partially resolving the white appearance into its elementary colours, and an electric spark, by its momentary existence, shewing the colours as though the wheel were at rest.

Mr. Faraday then referred to the rapidity with which electricity travels in copper, about 192,000 miles per second; and by an electric arrangement, at present, can we measure small intervals of time. And after mentioning an ingenious expedient to measure the velocity with which pistol-bullets travel, namely, two distant discs turned on the same axis, and shewing different positions of the holes, through both of which the bullet had passed; and after illustrating electric currents, and the measuring the time of a ball passing along a trough, itself making contact, and a bell ringing whilst the circuit was complete, indicating the duration of the passage, proceeded to the true chronoscope invented by Professor Wheatstone. It consists of hands as indicators of a clock-movement on the principle of the crutch escapement, to mark short intervals of time, and may be arranged for the 10,000th part of a second: their revolution prevented by an electro-magnetic arrangement. The apparatus was adjusted, on this occasion, to measure the falling of bodies through a given space. A wire passed from the battery, over the top of a pole, to a plate movable on it; from this a wire again went round a piece of soft iron near to a spring or keeper, thence to a rheostat, and thence to the battery again. The circuit was completed by the ball on the plate, at any height of the pole; and so long as the current was passing, the chronoscope was at rest. At the foot of the pole another circuit wanted only the weight of the ball to complete it. So that at the instant of the weight falling from the plate, the one circuit was broken and the hands of the chronoscope revolved; and the moment it reached the bottom, the other circuit was made, and the hands stopped by the renewed current of electricity: the intervals moved over by the indicators could be then read off. Wires across pistols in connexion with the battery and chronoscope, and others with the same and with the target, similarly exhibited the time of a bullet travelling over a given space.

Before concluding, Mr. Faraday took occasion to mention a thought of his in respect to the powers of matter. He had been led to speak of this by the inference drawn by Professor Playfair at the previous meeting, that matter does not consist of particles, but of centres of power, as conceived by Professor Faraday. The thought was, that radiant vibrations took place in the lines of force connecting the particles and masses of matter. He had talked of this as a fancy, as a supposition, separating the undulatory theory from the ether which is assumed by many. Is it not a strange thing that electricity should travel through conducting substances with the same velocity as light through this ether? What is the relation between them, or how to account for it? Light, he thought, might be vibrations along lines of force. Many

powers might cause lines of force illimitable in extent. Magnetism, for instance, probably passes to immense distances, like gravity; may it not be, then, Mr. Faraday asked, that lines of force pass from system to system, that these lines themselves are capable of vibration; and thus produce all the results of radiation?

CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

March 16th.—The president in the chair. Read: 1. "Reply to the observations of M. Pierre on the proportion of water in the magnesian sulphate and double sulphates," by Mr. T. Graham. 2. "On nitraniline, a new product of decomposition of dinitrobenzol," by Drs. Muspratt and Hoffman. The attempt by the authors to prepare a substitution-compound of aniline, in which the elements of nitrous acid should replace a part of the hydrogen of that body, was, after repeated failures, accomplished; not, however, by the direct action of nitric acid on aniline, which gave merely nitrate of aniline when the acid was employed cold, or products of decomposition, as carbazotic acid, when heat was applied. Other means, thought likely to yield the body in question, were also unsuccessful. It was at length obtained by the action of sulphuret of ammonium on dinitrobenzol, a product of the long-continued action of nitric acid of great strength upon nitrobenzide. The dinitrobenzol is dissolved in alcohol, saturated with ammoniacal gas, and treated with sulphuretted hydrogen until the conversion is complete, and sulphur ceases to be deposited. Hydrochloric acid is then added in excess, the solution filtered and mixed with potash, which throws down the new substance as a resinous mass of a brown colour: it is purified by crystallisation from boiling water or alcohol. Nitraniline contains $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{N}$. Its properties are as follows:—

It crystallises from hot water in long yellow needles, sparingly soluble in the cold, but dissolved without difficulty by alcohol and ether. The dilute acids also dissolve it, the solutions being precipitated by potash in yellow flakes. It is inodorous in the cold, but when heated, exhales an aromatic smell. Nitraniline is fusible at 230°Fahr. , and distils without decomposition at a temperature above 540°Fahr. When heated in the air, it takes fire, and burns with a smoky flame. In very many other respects the properties of the new substance resemble those of aniline. The basic powers of nitraniline are exceedingly feeble, and it is utterly destitute of alkaline reaction to the most delicate test-paper. The hydrochlorate, the same salt in combination with bichloride of platinum, the acid oxalate, and some products of decomposition of the base, were also described.

3. "On the blue compounds of cyanogen and iron," by Mr. A. W. Williamson, Ph. D. After referring to the experiments of Gay-Lussac and Berzelius on this subject, the author commenced his paper by the examination of the greenish substance left by the action of sulphuric acid on ferrocyanide of potassium, and showed that it may be regarded as ferrocyanide of potassium, in which one atom of potassium is replaced by iron; it contains one proportion of potassium to two of iron. By the action of dilute nitric acid and heat, this compound is oxidised, assumes a brilliant violet-blue colour, and may be regarded as ferricyanide of potassium, in which two atoms of potassium are replaced by iron; it contains about one proportion of potassium to 2.4 of iron. On heating this blue compound with a solution of yellow prussiate of potash, it changes to ferricyanide; and if the blue compound be in excess, no trace of yellow prussiate remains behind. The prussian blue prepared from ferricyanide of potassium and protosulphate of iron was next examined in detail, and also that obtained by the action of oil of vitriol on a solution of ferricyanide of potassium; the first contains one proportion of potassium to 9.3 of iron; the second, one of potassium to about 6 of iron. Dr. Williamson considers that the dyeing

power of these blues is in the inverse ratio to their quantity of potassium.

4. Mr. W. De la Rue described a new substance he had obtained during his investigation of cochineal, in which he has been engaged some time past; it is analogous to the compound obtained lately by Prof. Liebig by the action of potash on caseine.

March 30th. (Fifth anniversary.)—The president in the chair. The report of the council having been read, the society proceeded to the election of officers and council for the ensuing year, when the following gentlemen (those in italics not being members of the previous Council) were declared duly elected:

President: Mr. T. Graham.
Vice-Presidents: Messrs. A. Aikin, W. T. Brande, J. T. Cooper, R. Phillips.
Secretaries: Messrs. R. Warrington, G. Fownes, Ph. D.

Foreign Secretary: Mr. E. F. Teschemacher.
Treasurer: Mr. R. Porrett.

Council: Messrs. W. Crum, W. De la Rue, W. Gregory, M.D., R. Hunt, Sir R. Kane, H. B. Leeson, M.D., W. H. Pepps, L. Playfair, Ph. D., M. Seaman, J. Stenhouse, Ph. D., J. L. Wheeler, Lieut. Col. P. Yorke.

The thanks of the meeting were then voted to the officers and council respectively, for their services during the past year.

MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.

March 18th.—A paper by the secretary, Mr. J. Quekett, "On the intimate structure of bone in the four great classes of animals, viz. mammals, birds, reptiles, and fishes; with some remarks on the great value of the knowledge of such structure in classifying minute fragments of fossil organic remains," was read. After alluding to the highly important results obtained by Mr. Owen with the aid of the microscope in determining the affinities of extinct animals by means of their teeth, the author went on to state, that having for some time paid considerable attention to the structure of bone in the four great classes of animals, he had found certain characters peculiar to each great class, by which a bone of one class could be distinguished from that of another. He briefly described certain characters which were present in all bones, and then those which were peculiar to each class, viz. the Haversian canals, and the bone-cells with their little tubes (*canaliculi*) proceeding from them. He next applied the characters derived from the bone-cells to the determination of the class of animals to which any minute fragment may have belonged; for he had ascertained that the bone-cells were smallest in birds, a little larger in mammalia, and largest of all in the reptilia:—the bone-cells of fishes were remarkable for their being so unlike either of the three preceding classes, that, having been once seen, they could not easily be mistaken. The author then noticed the relative proportions of the bone-cells and blood-corpuscles of the same animal: and concluded by remarking, that however different the size of animals of the same class may be, the bone-cells did not vary according to the difference in size; thus the mighty *iguanodon*, some scores of feet in length, had no larger bone-cells than the lowliest lizard which we trampled under our feet, nor the horse or the ox than the smallest of our quadrupeds, the mouse.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

March 17th.—Sir John Rennie, president, in the chair. Read: an essay "On the relation between the velocity and the resistance encountered by bodies moving in fluids," by Mr. J. M. Heppel. The author stated that, with the exception of the researches of Palmer and Macneill upon canals, all experiments with reference to his subject have been made on bodies of too small dimensions. He then noticed the importance of the properties of larger vessels being more clearly ascertained, by observing the diminution of velocity of the bodies in

a given time, when the motive power was withdrawn, and hence to prove whether any deficiency in speed arose from a defect in the construction of the vessel or of the propelling machinery. The method for ascertaining experimentally this position was thus described:—To the bowsprit of the vessel, sufficiently ahead to be out of the disturbed water, a small iron bracket should be attached to suspend a slender rod, dipping at its lower extremity into the water, the part by which it hangs being a few inches below its upper end; upon the lower end, beneath the water, is a metal sphere, and to the upper end is attached a small cord connected with a rectangular bent lever, the horizontal arm of which works against a graduated arc, so divided, that when the slender rod is hanging vertically, the ship being at rest, it should be opposite zero on the arc. When the ship is in motion, the sphere, being acted upon by the resistance of the water, is forced from the perpendicular inwards towards the bow of the vessel; the bent lever is drawn upward by the cord, and marks on the arc the amount of force exerted: by watching the variation of this in given times, and under certain circumstances, the diminution of velocity, and consequently the retarding force, can be accurately ascertained.

March 24th.—Sir John Rennie, president, in the chair. The paper read was by Mr. W. Parkes, describing "the estuary of the river Severn." After giving a brief account of the Severn above Gloucester, the paper proceeded to describe the character of the river at Longney Point, about ten miles below Gloucester, where it becomes a tidal estuary, and where the most important circumstance to be taken into consideration as regards navigation is the rise of the tide. Below Longney the river becomes broad and shallow, and at low-water presents an extensive series of shoals composed of mud and sand. The stream there is rapid, and the general fall of the surface is much increased. This lower portion of the Severn forms a great natural weir, which the shipping avoid by taking the Berkeley ship-canal. Viewed in reference to its tides, that portion of the river might be considered as part of the Bristol Channel, for it is from the funnel-shaped form of that arm of the sea that it derives its facilities for navigation. In consequence of this form, the water running up is, as it were, choked by the downward current, and is raised above its sea-level. Thus the lift of a high-tide at Kingroad is 47 feet, at the old passage it is 45 feet, at Chepstow 37 feet 10 inches, and at Beachley 40 feet 6 inches. At this latter point is situated the Old or Aust Passage, on the main road from Bristol to Wales. The channel for navigation and the main set of the tide is close to the north or Beachley shore. The flood-tide flows at about 6½ miles an hour, and lasts 4½ hours, the ebb 7½ hours. Small vessels are enabled to pass up at 1½ hour after flood-tide commences, larger vessels soon after half-flood, and reach Sharpness Point, the entrance of the Gloucester and Berkeley canal, before high-water. Above Sharpness Point the river at low-water presents an immense extent of sandy and muddy shoals for 5 miles. Here is first observed the curious phenomenon called the "Bore":—the impetuosity with which the two currents meet, and the shallowness of the low-water channel cause an almost vertical rise of 2 or 3, and sometimes 5 feet, extending across the river, and varying its velocity as it passes over deep or shallow water.

The paper then proceeded to notice the capabilities of the lower part of the Severn for improvements, and stated that one of the improvements of which it was susceptible was cutting a canal across the neck of land from Framilode to Hock Crib, which would much facilitate the downward trade, by effecting a saving of two tides to vessels sailing in that direction. Any general scheme of improvement was scarcely practicable, as, if the natural impediments in the lower part of the river were removed, the effect might be to nearly drain the upper portion. Still some local alterations might

be advantageously made, and the navigation would be facilitated. The author seized the opportunity of suggesting the advantages of having one standard height as a uniform datum line all round the coasts of Great Britain, to which standard all levels should refer.

March 31st.—Sir J. Rennie, president, in the chair. The discussion upon the papers read at previous meetings was resumed, and precluded the reading of any original communications. On Mr. Heppel's paper, "On the resistance to bodies moving through fluids," it was observed, that the method of experimenting while dragging the paddles through the water was objectionable, and liable to error, from the slight knowledge we yet possessed of the actual resistance of flat bodies in fluids. Mr. Russell gave an account of the experiments tried by him on vessels of large tonnage, dragging them through the water by a steam-tug, and recording the resistance by a dynamometer, the peculiarities of which he described. The general result of the discussion appeared to be, that with regard to vessels no general law could be universal in its practical application, as it must be modified by circumstances due to the forms of the vessels, the lateral friction, and numerous causes, all of which must influence the results. The application of the dynamometer to testing the resistance of railway-trains was then discussed, and the members were generally surprised to find so small an amount of inequality of action at the starting of a train, and how soon the diagram showed comparative steadiness of traction. Still the delicacy of the instrument was such as to indicate distinctly every change of gradient, and even the entering and leaving a cutting or tunnel, shewing the greater or less influence of the wind. The usual dynamometers, with helical springs and frictions working in oil, were shewn to be for such purposes nearly useless.

In the renewed discussion upon Mr. Parkes' paper "On the estuary of the river Severn," the extraordinary circumstances attending the tides, the "breaking bore," the mode of conducting the navigation, and the improvements now executing in the upper part of the river, were fully treated. It was agreed that one universal datum line throughout Great Britain, referring to one standard, say Trinity high-water mark, would be of the greatest utility for tidal observations as for railway purposes; and it was proposed that the Institution should request the co-operation of Government in accomplishing this desirable object.

April 7th.—Sir J. Rennie, president, in the chair. The paper read was a short notice, by Mr. G. Buchanan, explanatory of a plan and sections of the Midlothian coal-fields. The city of Edinburgh has long been supplied from this coal-field, and it was stated to be still very far from being exhausted, but that a very large portion of the coal-seams were rendered useless by the vast volume of water which, percolating the old workings, pervaded the free-stone strata above the coal, and poured down in such quantities, that the pumping-engines were barely sufficient to keep open the present workings; it therefore became the object of the proprietors to obtain an extensive system of drainage throughout the coal-field. Mr. Buddle, at their request, reported that the great difficulty to be encountered arose from the existence of an open water-communication throughout the district; and therefore a pumping-engine placed in any one spot would draw the water from every surrounding part. The paper then described the situation of the great dyke, by which the coal was intersected and thrown eighty fathoms upwards; the north-east boundary, where the seams are standing on edge; and then gave the different seams of coal, and their qualities.

The following paper was announced to be read at the next meeting:—"On the combustion of fuel under steam-boilers, with a description of Bodmer's fire-grate," by Mr. J. G. Bodmer.

ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF PARIS.

This society, founded in 1839, and now known to the world by two volumes of very interesting papers, which have been noticed in the *Literary Gazette* (No. 1511), has, at the commencement of the present session, changed some of the officers who have directed its efforts since its first establishment. M. D'Arveze, who has held the post of vice-president since the foundation of the society, and who had always modestly refused to become the president, having requested his colleagues to make choice of another vice-president in his place this year (promising to take the same interest in the labours of the society as though he held that office), and M. Imbert des Mottelettes having made the same request with regard to the secretaryship, M. Lenormant has been elected president, MM. Alcide d'Orbigny and Troyes (the first well known by his travels in South America, and by his ethnological works on the American races, and the other by his works in Oriental literature and history) vice-presidents; M. Gustave D'Eichthal and M. Alfred Maury (under-librarian of the Institute) secretaries; and M. Milne Edwards honorary president.

At the meeting of February 27th M. Lenormant opened the business with some very interesting remarks on the advantages which the progress of ethnological science must derive from the uniting together of men devoted to the study of the natural sciences with those devoted to the study of the historical sciences; for ethnology is the point in which these two great branches of human knowledge meet. A note was then read from M. Bannister (formerly attorney-general for New South Wales) on the relations between civilised people and barbarous people. M. Bannister observed, that the most eminent historians and philosophers have always refused to examine the questions which arise out of these relations, and that this indifference is the prime cause of the ignorance which exists in the public mind on all questions connected with this subject, as well as of the many errors and faults committed in these relations. M. Gustave D'Eichthal then read the first part of a memoir on the origin of the civilisation of Mexico and Central America, and of its connexion with India, China, and Japan. M. D'Eichthal thinks that the relations between early American civilisation and the countries alluded to are so numerous and striking that it is impossible to look upon them as accidental; they are, moreover, explained very naturally by the introduction of Buddhism, which, from the 5th to the 7th century of our era, appears to have passed from the Corea and Japan to Mexico, following the course of the north-west coast of America. This fact has been several times a matter of conjecture; but M. D'Eichthal has endeavoured to give it the character of certain evidence, by basing it on considerations drawn from the history of Toltec civilisation, and that of the propagation of Buddhism. At a future meeting M. D'Eichthal will read the part of his work which relates to the monuments of Mexico and Central America, and he will point out the similitude in many respects between them and the analogous monuments of India and Japan.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, April 4.—The following degrees were conferred: *Masters of Arts*.—The Rev. J. O'Brien, Queen's College; the Rev. J. Hughes, Jesus College; the Rev. J. D. Gray, Balliol College; the Rev. J. A. Vatman, Univ. College.

CAMBRIDGE. *Chancellor's Medalists*.—On March 28, the two gold medals, value fifteen guineas each, given annually by the Chancellor of the University to two commencing Bachelors of Arts, who, having obtained senior optime at least, shew themselves the greatest proficient in classical learning, were adjudged to: 1. F. Lushington (18th senior optime, 1st classic), Trinity College. 2. H. Fitz-Maurice Hallam (33d senior optime, 9th classic), Trinity College.—*Cambridge Chronicle*.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

Presidency of the Royal Society of Antiquaries.—It gives us pleasure to state, that Lord Mahon,

already a member of the council of the Royal Society of Antiquaries, has consented to accept the unanimous nomination of the council to the Presidency of this ancient institution, as the successor to the Earl of Aberdeen, resigned. When we recollect how often the pages of the *Literary Gazette* have borne witness to the distinguished literary labours of his Lordship, we cannot but feel that the honour thus proposed for him is one justly due to his accomplishments and the high position he has carved out for himself in the literature of his country. But in addition to this, his liberal and courteous manners, and the spirit of candour and independence he has evinced in all the public transactions (known to us) where these qualities were most needed, and afford the best securities for future good government, have been such as to recommend him forcibly to become the head of a society which is generally felt to require renovation and a sound impartial directing judgment.

Mr. Hallam, President of the Royal Society of Literature, was invited to accept this Presidency also, but declined in favour of Lord Mahon, upon grounds similar to those we have stated.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN SOCIETY.

March 31st.—Mr. Sharpe in the chair. Letters were read from the General German Oriental Society, explanatory of their objects and proceedings; also from Mr. Waghorn, lately elected an associate, promising to forward the objects of the society, and to transmit matters of interest free of post. Mr. Ainsworth made some observations on that portion of the "Hereford Map" kindly exhibited by Mr. Wright, which relates to Western Asia. He remarked, that in those countries the materials were almost entirely Roman or Byzantine, and that there were few or no names derived from the Orientals or from individual travellers. Such maps are simply, what M. Jomard designates them, "monuments" or data in the history of maps; but, unlike the Theodosian or Ptolemaic Tables, or the Antonine Itinerary, they contain few, if any, facts available either to historical or descriptive geography.

A paper was next read by Mr. Clarkson on the Masonic symbol, called *Fesica Piscis*, which characterises early temples down to a considerable period after the Christian era. The author entered into curious and learned details concerning the possible origin of the ancient veneration for this symbol, and its bearing upon other emblematic figures and written traditions.

Dr. Platé made a further communication regarding the Belgrade and Salonika railway.

Mr. Ainsworth read an extract from a letter from H. Layerd, Esq., of Constantinople, referring to the heroine who is described by the Arab historians as having been besieged in the town of Al Hadhr, in Mesopotamia, by Shapur, and whose territories extended from Nineveh to Zebibeh on the Euphrates, including the territory and city of Palmyra. Her name was Zenobe, and her mother was a Roman. Mr. Ainsworth remarked, that the more common tradition was that the heroine's name was Zabba; and that after overthrowing Judaimah, the second of the kings of the Arabian dynasty of Hira, she was defeated by Amur, the third king of the same dynasty. He did not, however, believe that the chronological difficulties mentioned by Mr. Layerd, in identifying this princess of Al Hadhr with the Zenobia of history, were insuperable; but that most circumstances were in favour of that identification, which would impart still greater interest to the wondrous palace of Al Hadhr, a building with which, Mr. Layerd justly remarks, the arch of Ctesiphon will not bear comparison.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

April 8th.—*Council Meeting*.—Sir W. Betham, Ulster, in the chair. Six new associates, and several correspondents, were elected, and a number of presents laid on the table, among which the most re-

markable was an interesting collection of rubbings of brasses given to the Association by Sir Thomas Marmar. Several newly discovered British coins were exhibited, as well as some Saxon weapons discovered at Strood in Kent. A paper is in preparation on the recent discoveries at this place. Mr. Croker exhibited a species of silver ring-money found in Ireland, which is, it appears, the only specimen known, the common material being gold. It is understood that the subject of ring-money will be brought forward for discussion at the public meeting next Wednesday evening. The subject of table-books having been alluded to, Sir W. Betham informed the Council that a book consisting of twelve or thirteen tablets of box-wood, covered with wax, had been dug up in a bog in Ireland, and that it was inscribed with logical discussions in Latin. The Rev. S. Isaacson exhibited a beautiful gold ring turned up by the plough in a field in Sussex a few days ago: the outer rim was engraved with figures of saints; and in the inside was the inscription, *Nol outire*. Mr. Gomonde, of Cheltenham, communicated drawings and descriptions of supposed British and Roman pottery found on Ilmington Downs, near Campden, Gloucestershire. A long letter was read from Miss Warne, relating to the celebrated tapestries of Forde Abbey, which, it is understood, are to be brought to the hammer. It was stated that some years ago ten thousand pounds had been offered for these tapestries and refused, and that now they will probably not sell for one thousand. A long letter was communicated from M. de Gererville, relating to mistakes which had been made by confounding Cape La Hogue with Cape de Hague in Normandy, relating to which places a good deal of interesting antiquarian information was given. Several other papers were laid before the Council, of which we forbear to give any account, not knowing how many of them will be brought before the public meetings, when we shall give a more full report. A considerable portion of the time of the meeting was taken up with matters of business, relating to the publication of the Journal, &c.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

April 3d.—Lord Northampton, president, in the chair. Objects of primeval date were exhibited, such as strings of beads of amber and vitrified pastes; a spear-head of bronze of unusual form, and two remarkably small celts; found in Suffolk. Mr. Talbot exhibited two antique gold rings, discovered in a jar some years since at Terling-place, in Essex, the seat of Lord Rayleigh; near which about three hundred coins of Constantius Valens and the late Roman emperors were also found. Mr. Farrar sent an elaborately decorated monstrosity of the Renaissance period, enriched with stucco and reliefs. The President alluded to the ancient treatise by Sir F. Madden, on illuminated MSS., and to the works of Mr. Shaw and Mr. Westwood, which had been the means of attracting much attention to this neglected branch of inquiry; and after a few remarks on the great work published in France by Count Auguste de Bastard, concluded by directing the notice of the meeting to the numerous assemblage of MSS. of all dates which lay on the table. Mr. Hailstone then exhibited a series of manuscripts from his own collection, and pointed out some of the peculiarities of style and treatment which distinguish the various schools of medieval art. Mr. Rodd submitted for the inspection of the meeting a valuable collection of illuminations of Italian art, chiefly collected by the late Mr. Otley from the spoils of the monasteries in Italy, and also a beautiful MS. of the twelfth century, in the collection of Mr. Holford, containing thirty-two curious paintings representing the life and miracles of St. Edmund.

DISOLUTION OR SUSPENSION OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE DIFFUSION OF USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.
The act effecting the above, which we intimated to the public above a month ago, has now been

officially announced by the committee, which has issued a printed address on the occasion. In this, a review of their operations during twenty years, since the foundation in 1826, is put forth, and much merit is claimed for the political, religious, and educational fruits produced by them, and also for the improvement in publishing cheap books. The great scheme of the "Biographical Dictionary" is (as we always said it must be) abandoned; and the subscribers must be content with the letter A, finished in seven half-volumes, and which at its pace must have taken far more than half-a-century to complete. A loss of nearly 5000*l.* occurred on this letter: it would have been a pretty sum when the alphabet came to Z! A contingent hope is held out (a hopeless hope, we fear) that the publication may be resumed.

The address proceeds to say:—"With respect to the Society, however, the failure of the 'Biographical Dictionary,' though one of the circumstances which have led to its present situation, is only to be considered in that light in connexion with another of a more material, and much more gratifying, character. The Society's work is done, for its greatest object is achieved—fully, fairly, and permanently. The public is supplied with cheap and good literature to an extent which the most sanguine friend of human improvement could not, in 1826, have hoped to have witnessed in twenty years. The powerful contributors to this great object, who have been taught by the Society how to work without the Society, may almost be reckoned by the hundred, and there is hardly a country in Europe, from Russia to Spain, which has not seen the Society's publications in its own language, and felt their influence on its own system of production."

"In conclusion, the committee congratulate all who feel as they do upon the spirit of improvement now so actively displayed, and trust that it will not tire until it has achieved the universal education of the people. As employed in effecting their object by printed publications, which are principally addressed to those who have received some mental culture, they have always felt that the door of communication between them and large masses of the community was but a very little way open. But they have the satisfaction of seeing and knowing that at least there is now no further obstacle to those who have made the first step, and of feeling that they have been instrumental in removing the subsequent hindrance. The time is coming, they trust, when all will act upon what most now see, namely, that knowledge, though it adds power to evil, adds tenfold power to good; when there shall be no part of the community on which this maxim shall not have been verified; and when the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge shall be co-extensive with society itself."

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK:—

Monday.—Medical, 8 P.M.
Tuesday.—Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ P.M.; Zoological, 8½ P.M.; Syro-Egyptian, 8 P.M.
Wednesday.—London Institution, 7 P.M.; Microscopical, 8 P.M.; British Archaeological, 8½ P.M.
Saturday.—Westminster Medical, 8 P.M.

FINE ARTS.

THE ARTISTS' GENERAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION, UNDER the presidency of Mr. Collett, on Saturday, passed an agreeable and productive anniversary; nearly 150 gentlemen sitting down to table, and the chair being supported by a fair number of Royal Academicians, eminent publishers, and friends of the Fine Arts, and their professors. The musical arrangements, by Mr. T. Cooke, were more than usually gratifying, the glees, &c., beautifully sung by Mr. Hatton, and Messrs. Hill and Kench of Westminster Abbey, and a charming duet by the Misses Williams, which was encored. The chairman addressed the company on announcing the several toasts, and expatiated warmly on the humane and beneficial results of the Institution. He

mentioned that ten years of his own early life had been spent in visiting many countries, imbued with a love of the arts, and exercising his pencil (as we understood) in preserving the features of their choicest examples. Since then commerce and politics had withdrawn him from the field in which he took such delight; but he still returned with pleasure to aught that brought it back to his recollection, and would at all future times be happy to do his utmost to promote the interests of those engaged in the pursuit.

Mr. Mann, in a very impressive manner, returned thanks for the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Institution," and dwelt upon the blessings it had been enabled to confer on many distressed and deserving parties. In the course of his speech, he paid a feeling tribute to the memory of two of its most constant and efficient friends, the late Mr. Phillips, R.A., and Mr. Andrew Robertson, the distinguished miniature painter and most worthy and estimable man. He referred especially to his earnest advice to young artists, now that the Institution had done its duty, to do theirs. It is remarkable that an individual so long and generally known in the Arts as an exhibitor of excellent portraits for very many years, and so universally respected in social life, should have died a few months ago without an obituary notice. We had not heard of the death of our old friend till it burst so unexpectedly upon us in the midst of this charitable festivity. But so it is in our crowded and busy Babel. Mr. Robertson had retired to a quiet cottage a few miles from town; and dropped out of the bustling and striving circle as if he had never occupied a prominent place in its ranks. He was a right honest worthy man, one of the noblest works of God, an artist of great talent, and an honour to Scotland, the land of his birth and affections.

HAYDON'S PICTURES.

ON Saturday, a private view of this exhibition afforded us the pleasure of witnessing these efforts of genius in the highest branches of pictorial design: the Banishment of Aristides and the Burning of Rome by Nero, besides many sketches of various subjects, and other productions of art. To say at once that the Nero is neither in conception nor the style of execution what we can admire, will be to get rid of what we cannot but consider a manifestation of that genius which we have confessed, in an eccentric form. There are parts in which the idea is grand, and the handling masterly; but as a whole, we think the representation extravagant, and the fire effects such as never existed in Nature. We turn from it to the Aristides, at once one of the greatest and most successful examples of Haydon's pencil, and an honour to the English school. The subject is treated with sobriety, dignity, and feeling. The figure of the banished man, in the centre and foreground, is a splendid study of the Grecian, athletic but refined; and his boy, held by the hand, is not only a beautiful contrast, but a portrait truly and essentially beautiful. Between this admirable and expressive group, to the left of the spectator, is a venerable Archon, between whom, and a striking impersonation of Themistocles armed, are ranged the demagogue mob, clamouring for the exile of the hated "Just." But though this portion is full of effect, there is much more of interest on the other side of the principal character. His wife, of Sidonian aspect, with her infant in her arms (the infant charmingly drawn), is terrified by the violence of the crowd; and well may she wear that look of dread, for close to her is a Massaniello-looking ruffian, in the red pileus, yelling for vengeance, with his witch-like malignant mother urging him on; and below a fierce old republican* picking up stones to throw at Aristides, and a blind cripple also demonstrating his participation in the fury of the day. The ferocious and varied expression in

* This figure on a grand scale, and in the manner of the highest ancient art, is, in our opinion, too large.

be advantageously made, and the navigation would be facilitated. The author seized the opportunity of suggesting the advantages of having one standard height as a uniform datum line all round the coasts of Great Britain, to which standard all levels should refer.

March 31st.—Sir J. Rennie, president, in the chair. The discussion upon the papers read at previous meetings was resumed, and precluded the reading of any original communications. On Mr. Heppel's paper, "On the resistance to bodies moving through fluids," it was observed, that the method of experimenting while dragging the paddles through the water was objectionable, and liable to error, from the slight knowledge we yet possessed of the actual resistance of flat bodies in fluids. Mr. Russell gave an account of the experiments tried by him on vessels of large tonnage, dragging them through the water by a steam-tug, and recording the resistance by a dynamometer, the peculiarities of which he described. The general result of the discussion appeared to be, that with regard to vessels no general law could be universal in its practical application, as it must be modified by circumstances due to the forms of the vessels, the lateral friction, and numerous causes, all of which must influence the results. The application of the dynamometer to testing the resistance of railway-trains was then discussed, and the members were generally surprised to find so small an amount of inequality of action at the starting of a train, and how soon the diagram shewed comparative steadiness of traction. Still the delicacy of the instrument was such as to indicate distinctly every change of gradient, and even the entering and leaving a cutting or tunnel, shewing the greater or less influence of the wind. The usual dynamometers, with helical springs and frictions working in oil, were shewn to be for such purposes nearly useless.

In the renewed discussion upon Mr. Parkes' paper "On the estuary of the river Severn," the extraordinary circumstances attending the tides, the "breaking bore," the mode of conducting the navigation, and the improvements now executing in the upper part of the river, were fully treated. It was agreed that one universal datum line throughout Great Britain, referring to one standard, say Trinity high-water mark, would be of the greatest utility for tidal observations as for railway purposes; and it was proposed that the Institution should request the co-operation of Government in accomplishing this desirable object.

April 7th.—Sir J. Rennie, president, in the chair. The paper read was a short notice, by Mr. G. Buchanan, explanatory of a plan and sections of the Midlothian coal-fields. The city of Edinburgh has long been supplied from this coal-field, and it was stated to be still very far from being exhausted, but that a very large portion of the coal-seams were rendered useless by the vast volume of water which, percolating the old workings, pervaded the free-stone strata above the coal, and poured down in such quantities, that the pumping-engines were barely sufficient to keep open the present workings; it therefore became the object of the proprietors to obtain an extensive system of drainage throughout the coal-field. Mr. Buddle, at their request, reported that the great difficulty to be encountered arose from the existence of an open water-communication throughout the district; and therefore a pumping-engine placed in any one spot would draw the water from every surrounding part. The paper then described the situation of the great dyke, by which the coal was intersected and thrown eighty fathoms upwards; the north-east boundary, where the seams are standing on edge; and then gave the different seams of coal, and their qualities.

The following paper was announced to be read at the next meeting:—"On the combustion of fuel under steam-boilers, with a description of Bodmer's fire-grate," by Mr. J. G. Bodmer.

ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF PARIS.

This society, founded in 1839, and now known to the world by two volumes of very interesting papers, which have been noticed in the *Literary Gazette* (No. 1511), has, at the commencement of the present session, changed some of the officers who have directed its efforts since its first establishment. M. D'Avezac, who has held the post of vice-president since the foundation of the society, and who had always modestly refused to become the president, having requested his colleagues to make choice of another vice-president in his place this year (promising to take the same interest in the labours of the society as though he held that office), and M. Imbert des Mottelettes having made the same request with regard to the secretaryship, M. Lenormant has been elected president, MM. Alcide d'Orbigny and Troyes (the first well known by his travels in South America, and by his ethnological works on the American races, and the other by his works in Oriental literature and history) vice-presidents; M. Gustave D'Eichthal and M. Alfred Maury (under-librarian of the Institute) secretaries; and M. Milne Edwards honorary president.

At the meeting of February 27th M. Lenormant opened the business with some very interesting remarks on the advantages which the progress of ethnological science must derive from the uniting together of men devoted to the study of the natural sciences with those devoted to the study of the historical sciences; for ethnology is the point in which these two great branches of human knowledge meet. A note was then read from M. Bannister (formerly attorney-general for New South Wales) on the relations between civilised people and barbarous people. M. Bannister observed, that the most eminent historians and philosophers have always refused to examine the questions which arise out of these relations, and that this indifference is the prime cause of the ignorance which exists in the public mind on all questions connected with this subject, as well as of the many errors and faults committed in these relations.—M. Gustave D'Eichthal then read the first part of a memoir on the origin of the civilisation of Mexico and Central America, and of its connexion with India, China, and Japan. M. D'Eichthal thinks that the relations between early American civilisation and the countries alluded to are so numerous and striking that it is impossible to look upon them as accidental; they are, moreover, explained very naturally by the introduction of Buddhism, which, from the 5th to the 7th century of our era, appears to have passed from the Corea and Japan to Mexico, following the course of the north-west coast of America. This fact has been several times a matter of conjecture; but M. D'Eichthal has endeavoured to give it the character of certain evidence, by basing it on considerations drawn from the history of Toltec civilisation, and that of the propagation of Buddhism. At a future meeting M. D'Eichthal will read the part of his work which relates to the monuments of Mexico and Central America, and he will point out the similitude in many respects between them and the analogous monuments of India and Japan.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, April 4.—The following degrees were conferred: *Masters of Arts*.—The Rev. J. O'Brien, Queen's College; the Rev. J. Hughes, Jesus College; the Rev. J. D. Gray, Balliol College; the Rev. J. A. Yatman, Univ. College. *Cambridge. Chancellor's Medallists*.—On March 28, the two gold medals, value fifteen guineas each, given annually by the Chancellor of the University to two commencing Bachelors of Arts, who, having obtained senior optime at least, shew themselves the greatest proficient in classical learning, were adjudged to: 1. F. Lushington (18th senior optime, 1st classic), Trinity College. 2. H. Fitz-Maurice Hallam (33d senior optime, 9th classic), Trinity College.—*Cambridge Chronicle*.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

Presidency of the Royal Society of Antiquaries.—It gives us pleasure to state, that Lord Mahon,

already a member of the council of the Royal Society of Antiquaries, has consented to accept the unanimous nomination of the council to the Presidency of this ancient institution, as the successor to the Earl of Aberdeen, resigned. When we recollect how often the pages of the *Literary Gazette* have borne witness to the distinguished literary labours of his Lordship, we cannot but feel that the honour thus proposed for him is one justly due to his accomplishments and the high position he has carved out for himself in the literature of his country. But in addition to this, his liberal and courteous manners, and the spirit of candour and independence he has evinced in all the public transactions (known to us) where these qualities were most needed, and afford the best securities for future good government, have been such as to commend him forcibly to become the head of a society which is generally felt to require renovation and a sound impartial directing judgment.

Mr. Hallam, President of the Royal Society of Literature, was invited to accept this Presidency also, but declined in favour of Lord Mahon, upon grounds similar to those we have stated.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN SOCIETY.

March 31st.—Mr. Sharpe in the chair. Letters were read from the General German Oriental Society, explanatory of their objects and proceedings; also from Mr. Waghorn, lately elected an associate, promising to forward the objects of the society, and to transmit matters of interest free of post. Mr. Ainsworth made some observations on that portion of the "Hereford Map" kindly exhibited by Mr. Wright, which relates to Western Asia. He remarked, that in those countries the materials were almost entirely Roman or Byzantine, and that there were few or no names derived from the Orientals or from individual travellers. Such maps are simply, what M. Jomard designates them, "monuments" or data in the history of maps; but unlike the Theodosian or Pentingerian Tables, or the Antonine Itinerary, they contain few, if any, facts available either to historical or descriptive geography.

A paper was next read by Mr. Clarkson on the Masonic symbol, called *Fesica Piscis*, which characterises early temples down to a considerable period after the Christian era. The author entered into curious and learned details concerning the possible origin of the ancient veneration for this symbol, and its bearing upon other emblematic figures and written traditions.

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Mr. Mann, in a very impressive manner, returned thanks for the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Institution," and dwelt upon the blessings it had been enabled to confer on many distressed and deserving parties. In the course of his speech, he paid a feeling tribute to the memory of two of its most constant and efficient friends, the late Mr. Phillips, R.A., and Mr. Andrew Robertson, the distinguished miniature painter and most worthy and estimable man. He referred especially to his earnest advice to young artists, now that the Institution had done its duty, to do theirs. It is remarkable that an individual so long and generally known in the Arts as an exhibitor of excellent portraits for very many years, and so universally respected in social life, should have died a few months ago without an obituary notice. We had not heard of the death of our old friend till it burst so unexpectedly upon us in the midst of this charitable festivity. But so it is in our crowded and busy Babel. Mr. Robertson had retired to a quiet cottage a few miles from town; and dropped out of the bustling and striving circle as if he had never occupied a prominent place in its ranks. He was a right honest worthy man, one of the noblest works of God, an artist of great talent, and an honour to Scotland, the land of his birth and affections.

HAYDON'S PICTURES.

On Saturday, a private view of this exhibition afforded us the pleasure of witnessing these efforts of genius in the highest branches of pictorial design: the Banishment of Aristides and the Burning of Rome by Nero, besides many sketches of various subjects, and other productions of art. To say at once that the Nero is neither in conception nor the style of execution what we can admire, will be to get rid of what we cannot but consider a manifestation of that genius which we have confessed, in an eccentric form. There are parts in which the idea is grand, and the handling masterly; but as a whole, we think the representation extravagant, and the fire effects such as never existed in Nature. We turn from it to the Aristides, at once one of the greatest and most successful examples of Haydon's pencil, and an honour to the English school. The subject is treated with sobriety, dignity, and feeling. The figure of the banished man, in the centre and foreground, is a splendid study of the Grecian, athletic but refined; and his boy, held by the hand, is not only a beautiful contrast, but a portrait truly and essentially beautiful. Between this admirable and expressive group, to the left of the spectator, is a venerable Archon, between whom, and a striking impersonation of Themistocles armed, are ranged the demagogue mob, clamouring for the exile of the hated "Just." But though this portion is full of effect, there is much more of interest on the other side of the principal character. His wife, of Sidonian aspect, with her infant in her arms (the infant charmingly drawn), is terrified by the violence of the crowd; and well may she wear that look of dread, for close to her is a Massaniello-looking ruffian, in the red pileus, yelling for vengeance, with his witch-like malignant mother urging him on; and below a fierce old republican* picking up stones to throw at Aristides, and a blind cripple also demonstrating his participation in the fury of the day. The ferocious and varied expression in

* This figure on a grand scale, and in the manner of the highest ancient art, is, in our opinion, too large.

all these is wrought to the utmost pitch: and immediately behind the mother and child there is an exquisite contrast in one or more superbly painted old heads, and near another, of two female friends of the family. If we add to this imperfect description (for the work must be seen to be appreciated) a delightful middle distance and background towards the Piræan gate, with temples and statues, we have called attention to a production of extraordinary merit, and of which the country may justly be proud. That it has some defects, or parts less happy than others, is precisely what may be said of any of the cartoons at Hampton Court; and we trust it is not sacrilegious to state that we look upon this picture as a worthy companion to those immortal performances, which in many points it resembles.

The Oriental Album. By E. Prisse, Esq. London, Madden and Malcolm; Paris, Lemerrier. Much Eastern interest attaches to these engravings, which are skillfully executed on wood and stone, and afford picturesque views of scenery and striking illustration of character and costume. The work is affectionately dedicated to the memory of the late George Lloyd, whose early literature it was our happiness to foster, and whose early death it was our misfortune to deplore, in the pages of the *Literary Gazette*. Peasant dwellings in Upper Egypt are rough-looking enough, but make a good picture; and the child nursing a cat may seem to hint the fact, that our British feline race was in all probability originally derived from Egypt. Natives of various orders, camels resting, dromedaries halting (the latter two extremely well-drawn and spirited groups), fill up the agreeable fasciculus now before us, and promise a series well deserving of public encouragement.

Noticing a publication which reminds us of them, we may mention, as connected with such productions, the sale of the late M. Müller's drawings, at Messrs. Christie and Manson's last Saturday. The prices went very high, and sadly illustrated the truth that the living artist is sought after appreciated like the dead! "Wait (wrote P. Pindar) till you've been dead a hundred years," seems to be an established principle. Müller, we dare say, would have been glad, with all his talent, to take three guineas a piece for these drawings; which sold at from four and five up to thirty-six pounds each!

Sir R. Hermann Schomburgk. Paul, pinx.; Fisher, lith. London, Moon.

A PLEASING likeness of this eminent naturalist, having, curiously enough, something of a resemblance, especially in the upper features, to Edwin Landseer, the most distinguished of animal painters. The figure is well posed, and the costume very freely and well managed, to give a good effect to the whole.

Herr Pischeck. By Steinbach and Erxleben. Is another lithograph, slighter in style, but giving a faithful idea of the countenance of this popular musician.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

Paris, April 7th, 1846.

THAT five-act comedy, the production of which I announced in my last letter (*A Daughter of the Regent*) has been brought out at the Théâtre Français with unusual solemnity. *MM. les Comédiens Sociétaires*, as they entitle themselves, had made strenuous exertions in the way of decorations and costumes. It was evident that, after a disastrous season, they relied upon retrieving their fallen fortunes by one good hit, and thus inaugurate a period of prosperity. But, alas, the event crushed their hopes. The famous comedy was not one of those transcendent works of which it was formerly said, "*Es de Lope*." No touch even of Calderon—not even of Alexandre Dumas as he shone in bygone time;

but a wretched *roman-feuilleton*, hastily cut down into a dramatised form, and served out crude, unfinished, to the vulgar appetite. The vulgar, however, are not so indulgent at the Théâtre Français as at the Ambigu Comique or at the Gaité. It turned out, then, that too much reliance had been placed in its want of scruples, historical knowledge, good sense, and love of propriety. So the *Daughter of the Regent* had a signal failure; and the name of M. Dumas, once so popular, was hailed with numerous hisses. The friends of that gentleman now contend that the Rouen prosecution (again I must refer you to our last piece of chit-chat) has thrown the dramatic work into unmerited disgrace. This is nothing but a bad excuse for ill success. In the course of the whole five acts, one single allusion was made to the ridicule with which M. Dumas has recently covered himself in dealing out, right and left, patents of nobility. The *Regent*, to whom *Dubois* proposes some villany, answers, "L'Abbé, you are not a gentleman." At this the whole audience broke into a fit of laughter, remembering that M. Dumas, before the judges, had several times used the same expression, with an aristocratic affectation which is very properly considered ill becoming the half-caste grandson of some Marquis de la Pailletterie. With this exception, the play was hissed for its own defects, which were numerous, and forcibly struck the least prejudiced. For the sake of his political prospects, M. Dumas has dared to garble history, in showing us the Regent under the most noble aspect—a tender father, a devoted friend, a clement and generous monarch. All these flatteries, addressed to Louis Philippe in the person of his grandsire, met with a bad reception, and afforded but a very moderate satisfaction to the court party ensconced in the royal boxes.

As to the intrigue itself, which is tame, and offers little interest, I will describe it in a few words. The Regent has a natural daughter brought up in a convent under the name of *Helène de Chaverny*. A young gentleman in Brittany falls desperately in love with her, and is secretly beloved. Now this same gentleman (*Gaston de Chanlay*) has entered into a conspiracy against the life of the Regent, and chance has marked him as the instrument for the task of assassination, which he has duly accepted. *Helène*, recalled from the convent by her father, whom she does not know,—and *Gaston*, sent by his accomplices to sacrifice the intended victim,—both start simultaneously for Paris. There all the steps of *Gaston* are closely dogged by the Cardinal *Dubois*, who, under a feigned name, and with the help of secret signals which he has intercepted, passes himself off to *Gaston* as an emissary of the conspirators. The young madcap suffers himself to be thoroughly duped and conducted to the Regent himself, who is presented to him as the Spanish ambassador, and from whom he demands the means of accomplishing his sanguinary purpose. You may then judge whether he falls into good hands. So, notwithstanding the scruples of the Regent, who does not wish to turn against his enemy the secrets which he owes to the abuse of his confidence, *Gaston* is arrested and lodged in the Bastille. On this, *Helène de Chaverny*, who at last knows who her father is, declares she will die if she does not marry *Gaston*. *Dubois*, foreseeing this dénouement, furnishes *Gaston* with the means of escape; but instead of crossing the frontier, this obstinate conspirator returns to the pseudo-ambassador of Spain, and summons him with unabated virulence to deliver up the Regent to him. This leads us to the last scene, where the Regent suddenly unmasks himself, and bares his chest to the blow of his daughter's lover, while *Helène* throws herself forward to screen her father from the poniard which threatens his life. *Gaston de Chanlay* has then nothing better to do, you will allow, than to renounce his homicidal intentions and to marry his beloved one, much to the discomfiture of the Abbé *Dubois*.

The Théâtre Français acknowledges itself that the piece of M. Dumas will not much enrich its

treasury; for it has just put into rehearsal a comedy in three acts, the *Nuit au Louvre*, and a tragedy entitled *La Vestale*. The speedy representation of these two plays is announced.

The production of *Agnès de Méranie* (the second tragedy of M. Ponsard) is, on the contrary, indefinitely adjourned, in consequence of the ill health of Madame Dorval, to whom was destined the principal part, and who has to leave Paris for the South of France, to seek some alleviation of her cruel sufferings.

Yesterday, at the Odéon, a comedy in three acts and in verse was produced; the first essay of a young poet (M. Edouard Sèret). I remarked in that comedy an English character (*Lord Stine*), a character which testifies how much weakened is that inimical prejudice which has so long divided the two most powerful communities in Europe. *Lord Stine* is not at all that extravagant and morose personage which formerly was invariably presented to us as ever ready to poison or hang himself, exhibiting eccentricities savouring of bad taste, brutal candour, and ever spluttering away in most ridiculous fashion. Scarcely have they left him a slight tinge of foreign accent, just sufficient to give more point to his clever and just observations, and his correct critiques on the manners and countries he has studied and visited. By the author he is made to cope with one of those dangerous syrens who are called *coquettes* in Paris, and, *ma foi!* John Bull, at first deceived, contrives to pass intact through this terrible ordeal. He escapes in time, his heart slightly wounded, but rid of the conjugal yoke. This is a dramatic satisfaction which I beg of you to note down. We give you the example of a return to truth, of good taste, and of international justice. Do so bestir yourselves that we shall no longer be vituperated at the Haymarket or at Covent Garden, as if we were all of us thin *coiffeurs à Poiseau royal*, all dancing-masters, and devourers of frog-soup. It is a fearful mistake to remain for a century faithful to a caricature which has never been correct. Do make another, and one more like I warrant we shall be the very first to laugh at it.

The last admission to the Academy has not made so much stir as M. A. de Vigny's reception. M. Molé has shewn himself by far less severe; and M. Ludovic Vitet (the new Academician) has displayed more reserve and more modesty. M. Ludovic Vitet is a man of much merit, recommended by most conscientious labours and an exquisite good sense. He founded his reputation as a writer in 1826, by the *Barricades*; after which the *Etats de Blois* and the *Mort de Henri III.* came in quick succession. These were tragedies, or rather historical scenes, in prose, in which the chronicles, the memoirs, the pamphlets, of each epoch were put in requisition, and furnished the matter of dramas unfitted for representation, but most amusing to read.

I cannot well comprehend why this literary process, which animates and vivifies history by dramatising it, has not been introduced into England by you, who gather with such jealous care all that relates to your national history, and who know so well how to find out the most trifling anecdotes appertaining to the most diminutive of your heroes. What a number of dramas could be extracted, and with little trouble, from the memoirs of Henry VIII., on Cromwell, on the court of James II. True it is, you convert them into novels; but dramas would be much better, especially were they as scrupulously historical as those of M. Vitet, of whom M. Molé has said, with much correctness of appreciation, "You evidently have not desired either to invest facts with that most passionate interest of the drama, nor to lend to characters that portion of idealisation which the tragic muse confers on the great personages of history."

M. Vitet, since those first efforts, crowned with true success, has devoted himself to subjects more serious. Amongst his later works, published at long intervals in the *Revue*, we must mention an *Essai sur les Jardins*, in sequence to the didactic

poem of l'Abbé Delille; a learned dissertation on the *Architecture du Moyen Age en Angleterre*; and lastly, a critical notice on *La Vie et les Ouvrages d'Eustache Lesueur*, in which may be found all that has been said most truthful, most sensible, and most ingenious, on French painters before David.

In the way of new books, I see but one that I can mention. It is *Clarisse Harlowe* of Richardson, retouched, corrected, and considerably diminished, by M. Jules Janin. At the hour I write, it is brought to me, and I will give you my opinion of it another day.

[From our occasional Correspondent.]

Paris, April 6, 1846.

In the course of a recent process before one of the law courts, an advocate stated, that when Lavoisier, the celebrated *savant*, was condemned to death by a revolutionary tribunal, on the absurd and stupid accusation of having placed tobacco in water, and thereby endangered the health of the citizens, he earnestly requested that his execution might be delayed for three days, in order that he might have time to finish an important scientific treatise on which he had been long engaged. The brutal functionary to whom he applied answered with characteristic brutality, "The republic has no need of *savans*," and that the execution would not be postponed. Lavoisier, therefore, resumed his task without a word of complaint, and continued it until summoned to go to the scaffold. He then laid down his pen in the midst of an unfinished sentence, went out, and was beheaded. Is not this calm meeting of a horrible death worthy to rank with the self-sacrifices of the martyrs of old?

In a recent *razzia* in Algiers, the French seized the tents of the renowned hero Abd-el-Kader. Among other things, many of his papers fell into their hands; and in these papers there was found a manuscript poem written by Abd-el-Kader himself. Who would have believed that a semi-barbarian, engaged in deadly war, amused his leisure hours by poetical composition? Yet such appears to be the case. The poem in question is a lamentation on being separated from his brothers; and as it is not long, I will translate it from the French translation. It will give some idea of Arab poetry in general, and of Abd-el-Kader's poetical powers in particular; but of course great allowance must be made for the effect it loses in a double translation. It runs as follows:

"PRAISE BE TO GOD.

"1. Black ball of my eye—soul of all my being—
mild spring of my heart—strength animating my arm;

"2. Your presence recreates my sight. By you,
my heart, full of delight, despises riches, forgets
paternal affection.

"3. But Destiny has pierced my eyes with his
arrows; and since the hour when you departed
from me, no sight has rejoiced my regards.

"4. What thing after you can recreate my
heart? By the Master of the Temple (Mahomet),
neither pleasure nor fortune!

"5. At the instant of your departure my soul
fainted; and my tears fell on account of the over-
flowing of my heart.

"6. My patience exhausted, exists not; but
despoiling grief will not go away; and I cannot
conceive the limits of it but at the bounds of eter-
nity.

"7. The flesh of the delicious date has been
eaten. The bony heart of the fruit rests naked,
deprived of its envelope.

"8. Since you left me, joy has flown far from
me: my heart is insensible to the gifts I receive,
as to those that I make.

"9. When you disappeared, my life without
you was for me only the course which a messenger
makes.

"10. Your absence has rendered my nights
long—so far as to drive from my thoughts the
hope of attaining the term of it.

"11. How many times have I cried, when the

sun dissipated darkness—O SAID! art thou, then,
but a vain image that offers itself to my view?

"12. And yet my soul, in these moments, comes
to reanimate my body—O MOSTAFA! Is it a re-
medy for grief?

"13. To be separated from HOCIN is one of
my bitterest agonies: but nothing can prevent
the accomplishment of the decree of God among
creatures.

"14. After the torments of separation, chance,
generous at last, will it bring about a union
which will recal to life whom the loss of hope has
conducted to death?

"15. If this ardent desire be ever fulfilled, my
body will recover its strength and its soul.

"16. O my brethren! O you who are united to
me by our same father; who are dear to me by
affection, a bond solid and durable;

"17. Be in this life as were those who have
preceded us. They are no more! Endeavour, like
them, to acquire, by your deeds, glory that cannot
be contested.

"18. If fortune comes to you, distribute its
gifts. If she turns away, content yourselves with
the affection which unites us.

"19. May the fecund cloud of my salutations
expand over you! May their perfume extend in
unbounded space!

"20. Be a bond to unite friends wherever they
may be. A friend is to me as the brother the
most dear!"

The *Chroniques des Cours de France*, of Monsieur le Baron de Crespy-le-Prince, have attained a prominent place in public estimation. On their publication they were highly appreciated, but their subsequent popularity has been far greater than could have been anticipated by their modest author, or even by the warmest of his admirers. The *Chroniques*, in fact, form a very remarkable work, and make a valuable addition to French literature. In a few pages they present a vivid picture of each of the courts which have governed or tyrannised over this beautiful land of France, and been loved, feared, or hated by its people. They unite the grave character of history to the witching charm of fiction. They are written, too, with all the seriousness of the historian, and with all that fascinating *esprit* which is a peculiar characteristic of the French mind. They may be read alike by those who study and by those who seek only for amusement. The author has evidently taken great pains to attain historical accuracy; but notwithstanding the historical information which he presents, his work is never dull, thanks to his lively sparkling style, and his brilliant imagination, of which, by a rare felicity, he appears to communicate a portion to his readers. When, laying aside for a moment the gravity of the historian, he becomes the simple story-teller, nothing can exceed the delight with which we run over page after page of his accounts of the humorous, and at times terrible, adventures of *les Cours de France*. But any commendation that I can offer of the valuable work of the Baron de Crespy-le-Prince cannot equal in authority the enthusiastic terms in which the venerable Chateaubriand, the chief of modern French, and perhaps of European, literature, has spoken of it. He has praised it, and praised it in the warmest manner in which praise can be uttered; and his praise, I repeat, will, as a matter of course, weigh more than that of any other individual, both with the author and the public. M. de Crespy-le-Prince has gained distinction not only as an author, but as a painter too. Though only an amateur artist, his works enjoy the highest popularity, and have not fewer than three times gained the envied honour of the gold medal at the annual exhibitions. His portraits are characterised by remarkable truthfulness; and of his other works a competent critic has observed, that they show that "their author is alike a great painter and a great poet." It is to be regretted that a writer so able, and an artist so distinguished, does not, for the sake of the public, give constant employment to his pen

and pencil, instead of remaining content with the literary renown the former has gained him, and with placing the latter at the service of his personal friends.

English publishers are clever hands at spreading small quantities of matter over the widest possible space—witness the three-volume novels. But their Parisian brethren beat them all to nothing. The *Wandering Jew*, the *Mysteries of Paris*, the *Three Mousquetaires*, and other popular tales of the day, evidence the superiority of the "spinning out" talents of the Parisians over those of the Cockneys. *Monte Christo*, however, the romance of Alexandre Dumas, out-Herod's Herod—outstrips even the most extravagant things yet done. Originally intended to occupy twelve volumes, the ingenious publisher has spun it out to eighteen, by means of giving infinitesimally small doses of type to each page. In the first twelve volumes this process is carried on with some little regard to decency, but in the last six or seven it becomes really scandalous. Thus in the seventeenth volume, which I opened by hazard, there is one page, the 303d, thus occupied: "No, take it away." "But you will be without light." "I can see during the night." "That's like you."

Another page, the 152d: "You saw, then, that he was suffering?" said the count. "Yes," answered the young woman, "and I fear that he will be wearied in stopping with us." "I will amuse him," said the count."

These are full pages, not commencements or endings of chapters. The pages containing the commencement of new chapters are even more economical of type. Witness the first chapter of the seventeenth volume: "Madame de Villefort raised her arms to heaven, and struck her hands convulsively one against the other." It is the same in the pages with terminations of chapters—see the third chapter: "And the *procureur* breathed more freely than he had done for a long time."

Isn't this, to use a vulgar phrase, too much of a good thing? That it is clever I will not deny, for it makes the public pay for eighteen volumes when it ought only to pay for twelve or ten: but is it honest? Is it other than what our old friend the Jew frankly assured his victimised "ladies and shentlemen," "as vas von shvindle?"

The *Revue Britannique*, in its last number, commits one of the richest blunders I have had the good fortune to laugh at for a long time. In a Life of Nelson, it describes the immortal hero's preparations for the battle of Copenhagen; and says that, after those preparations were completed, he went in his *gig* with some of his captains to reconnoitre the Danish fleet, adding an explanatory foot-note to the effect that the aforesaid gig was—"a sort of cabriolet!"

The newspapers are telling a tale about Mdle. Rachel's being offered 200,000 francs—8000*l.* in your money—to go to St. Petersburg to give a few performances during the fêtes in honour of the marriage of the Princess Olga, and of her refusal to abandon, even temporarily, her present engagements. What gullible fools the Parisian journalists must be to suppose that their readers can swallow such an enormous —!

For the information of the Statistical Society, I beg to state that it is calculated that in the present exhibition of the works of living artists the paintings cover a space of 20,000 square metres, or 2 hectares; that the frames are 17½ kilometres in length; that the value of the whole collection of pictures is about 400,000*l.*; and that the canvasses and the gilded frames only are estimated at 40,000*l.* of that sum.

It is asserted that Horace Vernet, the painter, will shortly be created a Peer of France. *Tant mieux*. The honour done in this country to literature and art, in the persons of their most distinguished representatives, is greatly to its credit; and will—because it must—sooner or later be imitated in Britain. Old England, in fact, ought to feel her cheeks tingle at her scurvy treatment of

her writers and her artists having continued so long. Let the dear old soul be assured that they are among the best and the worthiest of her sons—that they have done as much to extend her glory as the greatest of her soldiers or the ablest of her statesmen—and that in honouring them she honours herself.

Madame de Witt of Hanover has finished the globe of the moon, on which she has been engaged for the last twenty-two years. It is a truly marvellous work of art, setting forth with minute particularity all the discoveries made in or on the moon up to the present time. It is a millionth part of the size of the lunar planet, and, when lighted, represents that luminary as it would appear through a powerful telescope. The German papers state that the Royal Astronomical Society of London has purchased Madame de Witt's wonderful globe.

GIBRALTAR.

March, 1846.

A FEW weeks ago, the Chief-Justice of Gibraltar had some workmen employed at his house; and whilst one of them was digging near the dining-room window, he perceived an opening, which he found was very deep. He, with some others, and the Chief-Justice himself, ventured down this aperture; and, after descending about 40 feet almost perpendicular, they came to a very narrow passage, which led to a most beautiful cave; stalactites hanging about as white as snow and of various forms—some like cauliflowers. In the midst of all this was a human skeleton, sticking fast to the rock, and the bones of a dog beside it, both having become petrified. The Chief-Justice's house (which is an old one) is built immediately over the cave. I walked out on 4th inst. to examine the bones. It is quite melancholy to see the skull, the water has dropped on the lower jaw till it has run down and hardened, giving it the appearance of a beard. Some parts are quite petrified. The scalp still remains, and the veins on the left side are very distinct. It is just like stone, and is chipped here and there, so that the bone of the skull appears through very white, in some places like ivory. The nose likewise has not quite decayed, and the remaining parts are also stone. The bones of the right hand were fastened to the right side of the head, so that the poor creature has the appearance of having lain down and died, very probably of starvation, with his hand under his head, which is half turned round as if he or she had been looking up. The entire set of teeth were beautifully perfect, but the front ones of the lower jaw dropped out when it was moved. There is some of the back-bone, arm-bones, leg, ribs, and thigh; in fact, I believe they have them all complete. The bones of the dog lay beside the human bones.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

THE NEW PARLIAMENTARY PALACE.

THE Report of the Select Committee on the present state of Westminster Bridge and the New Palace seems at last to have brought this strange jumble to a crisis. One of the resolutions runs thus:

"It appears expedient, adverting to the differences which have existed between Mr. Barry and Dr. Reid, to recommend the following arrangements for carrying out Dr. Reid's system of ventilation and warming in the New Palace at Westminster—namely, that in the event of any objection being made by Mr. Barry to the plans of ventilation and warming submitted by Dr. Reid, or in the event of any difference arising between Mr. Barry and Dr. Reid, either as to the amount of information requisite for the preparation of these plans, or in their execution, or otherwise, such difference shall be referred to a third party; that such third party shall finally decide upon such difference or objection; and that, subject to such decision, Mr. Barry be directed to carry into effect the plans submitted by Dr. Reid. That the third

party shall be constituted as follows—that is, that it shall consist of one person appointed by Mr. Barry, and one by Dr. Reid, subject, in each case, to the approval of the Chief Commissioner of Woods, &c., and that in case it shall be necessary to appoint an umpire, such umpire shall be appointed by the Chief Commissioner, &c."

So long ago as the exposition of his then system given *videlicet* by Dr. Reid, to the British Association at Devonport (A.D. 1841), we took no pains to conceal our "strong suppose" as to the amount of charlatanism mixed up with this grand ventilating scheme. But since that period it has grown into more gigantic proportions; and the larger it grew, the more glaring became its absurdities; till, at length, pamphlets, the *Quarterly Review*, the *Times* newspaper, and other organs of public opinion, have spoken out and denounced the concern as a complete humbug. Whether it is so or not, or whether some parts of it may not be usefully applicable, we will not take upon ourselves to determine; but we cannot hesitate to say that in our judgment it is, as a whole, one of the most monstrous pieces of pseudo-scientific bamboozle ever effected upon public credulity. Airs from heaven, or blasts from hell, are to be supplied as required, not only in moderate-sized dwelling-houses, but throughout vast complicated buildings, and even to the circumambient atmosphere breathed by all the human race! No one need ride out now, for Dr. Reid can give an airing in an easy-chair. Heat or cold is to be had by pulling a bell-rope. Hecla with its fires or icebergs, can be introduced into a little parlour. Lords and Commons (whose speeches are already often thought too long) are to be imbued with a new and inexhaustible fluency, and the British constitution tried in the persons of our senators beyond all measures of reform, repeal, or revolution. The old adage tells us that he who runs may read; but if the Doctor is allowed his whole way, we will venture to predict that he who reads will not run long. One can hardly be serious with such a bubble; but its vast interference with the realities of life gives it actual importance, and we can scarcely laugh at the wide folly by which it has been blown and supported. *Ex fumo dare mortem* is a black joke when brought into our public places and private abodes.

SIGHTS OF LONDON.

NEW ZEALAND EXHIBITION.

THIS is of the good class of Exhibition, and reminds us of the time of Mr. Bullock, when he was wont to get together collections at once so curious and instructive that old and young found them always satisfactory, pleasing for repeated visits, and leaving recollections upon the mind more vivid and useful than books. Mr. Angus, like that able purveyor, has travelled many thousand miles in distant parts of the earth, and brought home the fruits of his toil in every shape to illustrate the manners, scenery, climate, geography, and natural history of these climes. New Zealand, South Australia, and Brazil contribute their stores to this museum, and what could not be transported has been made the subject of numerous drawings, faithful in character and really admirably executed. The whole affords an excellent idea of the country and the natives, and their habits and customs. Nearly a hundred portraits of chiefs, priests, &c., and their wives, children, relatives, dependants, and slaves, make us acquainted with the personal appearance of Rauparaha, Rangiheta, Heki, and other celebrities, as well as the general mass, with their strange tattoos and fantastical costume. Singular facts are connected with many of these pictures. For instance, we learn, in conjunction with the likeness of "Ko Amai, a woman of Wakanui Pah, anointed with *kokouai* or red earth, to keep off the sand flies," that "the New Zealand women bring up little pigs as pets, which become so very tame, that they follow them for miles, and nestle in their garments;" from "Papuka, a lame

boy, nephew of Heuheu, Ko Tiki, a boy of Tukanu, and Tao, a girl of the same village, near the boiling ponds," that "yellow or golden coloured hair sometimes occurs amongst the natives of the interior;" that the tribe of Heki now consists of all the desperate and refuse characters of the tribes; that "Te Heuheu, or Mananui, or Tukino, the principal chief of all Taupo Lakes, is one of the oldest and most important of the heathen chiefs of the interior; he has eight wives, and his person is so sacred that no slave may touch him under pain of death; at the same time he is generous and hospitable to strangers."

Then we have such pictures (with descriptions) as a "Wahi Tapu, or sacred place, containing the property and garments of a deceased chief, at Waiharakeke river," and where "a calabash of food and a gourd of water were placed on a stick for the ghost of the departed to refresh itself when visiting the spot, and a small canoe stood within the enclosure, to assist the spirit across the river, which they imagine to be the boundary of our region of spirits;" "a Cook-house in a potato-ground at Orakei, near Auckland, and Heuheu's cook-houses in the old Pah of Waitahuna at Taupo, where the ovens still remain in which the bodies of his enemies were cooked during cannibal feasts;" "the Boiling Ponds, near Tukanu. Some of these ponds are 60 feet in circumference, and the violent rumbling noise of the water boiling underneath the ground is heard whilst walking on the surface for a considerable distance;" "Lamentation over a deceased Chief—A 'Tangi,' or meeting of friends. When friends meet in New Zealand, they cry together for some time, making the most doleful lamentations, then succeeds the *Ongi*, or pressing notes, which concludes the ceremony;" "Patukas, or ornamental storehouses for provisions. A woman beating flax, and the *Kela*, or southern Nestor, a bird constantly domesticated by the New Zealanders, and perched about their dwellings."

Idols, ornaments, weapons, instruments of every kind, fill up the catalogue and enrich the exhibition, and there are also specimens of natural and some very curious copies of ancient figures and marks remaining on rocks and in caves. Among these there is no resemblance to letters, and the outlines are of the rudest caste. There are throughout traces of analogies with Central America and Hindostan, which cannot fail to strike the spectator, and the whole presents a very interesting national view, it may be said, of the aborigines of New Zealand and South Australia and the land they inhabit. A fine intelligent boy, the grandson of a famous New Zealand chief, has been brought to Europe by Mr. Angus. He speaks English fluently, and we were much pleased with his conduct and conversation.

We observe that Mr. Angus is about to publish the results of his three years' toils, both from the pencil and pen; and we cannot doubt that his works will meet with great popular encouragement. They well deserve it.

ORIGINAL,
AND CURIOSITIES OF LITERATURE.

LIME IN SACK: SHAKESPEARE.

STEEVENS, in a note to the *Merry Wives of Windsor*, act i. sc. 3, tells us that *frothing beer* and *liming sack* were tricks practised in the time of Shakespeare; that the first was done by putting soap into the bottom of the tankard when they drew the beer; the other by mixing lime with the sack, to make it sparkle in the glass. As no authority whatever is given for these positive assertions, we must, I think, be contented to take the reading of the folio, *froth and live*, and regard the lection of the earlier editions as an error. On this point, however, it may be prudent to wait till a wider course of reading than has hitherto been attempted will enable us to decide with greater certainty that Steevens has given a mere conjecture, instead of a

conclusion formed from early evidence. As far as I can at present see, the reading time cannot remain with safety in the *Merry Wives of Windsor* in the place now cited. To proceed: in the First Part of *Henry IV.*, Falstaff says, "You rogue, here's lime in this sack too: there is nothing but roquetry to be found in villainous man: yet a coward is worse than a cup of sack with lime in it." Even this passage, which is far clearer than the one in the other play, has not been satisfactorily explained, and it is even now necessary to state that lime was formerly put in large quantities into sack to cure the tartness. It is still the custom of some wine-merchants to do so; and in the country, lime-stones or egg-shells are frequently put into beer, for the same purpose. The notes of the commentators do not meagre on this subject, and it may perhaps be as well to offer some minute evidence that does not appear to have hitherto attracted any attention. It is contained in a little work by Walter Charleton, M.D., entitled, "Two Discourses: the first concerning the different Wits of Men: the second, a brief Discourse concerning the various sicknesses of Wines; and their respective remedies at this day commonly used: delivered to the Royal Society," 12mo, London, 1692. I quote from the third edition, the one I possess, but it was printed as early as 1675. At p. 91 he says, "it is usual in some countries to put quick-lime either upon the grapes when they are pressing, or into the must, to the end that, by the force and quickness of its saline and fiery particles, the liquor may be both accelerated and assisted in working." What follows at p. 133 is still more to the purpose: "For sack or any other wine that hath prick or boyl, take thirty or forty of the whitest limestones you can get, slake them in a pottle of the same wine in a can; then take more wine and stir them together, and put it into your cask; and stir it well till you think it be enough: let it rest till it be fine, and it will take away the prick, and make it drink kindly." Again at p. 180: "How to use a butt of sack when it is musty: take a gallon of lime, and beat it small, and put it into the butt; then take a staff and beat it, and let it stand a day or two." Similar directions are given in other parts of the book, but what we have extracted is sufficient for our purpose. It seems quite clear that the practice of "improving" sack by the addition of considerable quantities of lime was formerly very common; and it certainly does not involve too wide an extent of conjecture, to believe that the length to which the practice was carried oftentimes resulted in the communication of that peculiar flavour to the liquor which was so distasteful to the palate of Sir John, as to draw from him the indignant conviction, that nothing less than a coward—and here is a brilliant argument for the knight's bravery to be added to Mr. Morgann's collections,—that absolutely nothing less than a coward could be worse than sack with villainous lime in it. J. O. HALLIWELL.

Dramatic Chapters.

CHAPTER IX.

SCENE.—A deep hollow in the woods of the Forest—Witches carousing—MIDGLEY, TOADFOOT, NIGHTSHADE, RAT-FEAT, and others.

Chorus of Witches.

Where unholy tempests blow,
Welcome, fox and carrion-crow,
Wizard, bat, and goblin owl,
Ghosts and shapes that nightly prowl,
Venomed snakes and almy toad,
Sights that hint of hell's abode;
Welcome brinded cat and grey,
To the Witches' holiday!
Fricky branch and thorny weed,
Things on human pain that feed;
Meteors gleaming to betray,
Faint and foul, make holiday!
Plunk, that on the treacherous wave
Mocked the clinging to their grave,
Welcome with thy ghastly prey,
To the Witches' holiday!
Spirits of infernal dew,
Start ambition overthrow,
Secret fires that idly slay,
Waste and want, make holiday!

Welcome Sea, thou life ensnaring;
Welcome Earth, with thy despairing;
Welcome Winds, on wrecks that prey;
'Tis the Witches' holiday!
Midgley speaks. 'Twas a night to make fiends quail,
Rain and lightning, wind and hail;
Shrieks, and storms, and shuddering voices,
Death-like groans that hell rejoices:
In the caldron of the dark
Something brewing: we must hark!
There will be a deed ere long,
Or these portents use false tongue!
Toadfoot. There will be a deed of sin!
On the cloud, without, within,
This was writ in lines of blood,
Which the storm-fiends understood.

WOLFbane (sings without).
The midnight is yelling,
The demons' flight telling;
The witch-fire is blazing,
The evil-eye gazing:

Come in!
The wild hags are trooping
With howling and whooping,
With cursing and driving
The red air is writhing.

Like sin!
Branch, hedge-stick, and broom,
Seem alive in the gloom;
Like foes that have striven,
The black clouds are driven.

Amain.
Whirl rising and rounding,
Description confounding,
Speeds on the wild rout
With blind havoc and shout

In their train!
The mountains are gliding,
The giant-cragg riding,
The forest is crashing,
The mad ocean dashing—

So, ho!
As a drunkard returning,
The old earth is whirling;
While thunder-rain quaking,
With haggard fiends laughing

We go!
Toad. Enter WOLFbane.
Joy, Wolfbane; joy!
The spell hath sped!
The curse hath stood!
The sword is bright
That ere the night
Shall quiver red!

With blood!
Wolf. Mount thee, Toadfoot; climb the air;
Scatter guilty passions there:
Bid them fall on human sight
With a pressure and a blight!
Sting the brain, and sear the eyes,
Bid betraying phantoms rise:
Let his reason quit control—
Loose revenge upon his soul!
O'er his dark and destined head
Hang the spell with murder red!
Adol. (without). What, ho! my friends!
Wolf. Footsteps on the forest-dew,
Young, yet not to sorrow new;
Yet that hot and hurrying tread,
Could it but awake the Dead,
Rouse the Guilty from his bed,
It might start a tale of sin
Fit for fiends to revel in!
Swift he comes! but when away—
Dawn! what hath thy book to say?

(Examining the heavens.)
Crimson is the house of Life,
Accident with Fate at strife,
Whirl! Revenge half hides the knife!

Enter ADOLPHUS.
[Confused gibbering of Witches.]
Wolf. Welcome, lost one! thou art mine!
Hang on air the mystic sign.

[A light is flung upon the air—it floats—then appears to fall, but suddenly changes, and soars out of sight.]
Boy, a guarded life is thine;
Fear not, thou hast nought to fear:
Welcome to the Witches' cheer!

Midg. Wolfbane, lend the boy to me;
I will tend him warily!

Adol. Stay!

Tell me what these sights may mean.
Wolf. Gaze, but speak not, till the scene
Pass as it had never been!

[WOLFbane waves his wand—a magical Scene opens—with wild dance of Witches.]

Wolf. (sings). Come! hither come!
Come near, come far;
Ye that with the falling star
Speed destruction, hither come!
Ever first and ever last—

* This song appeared in the *Lit. Gaz.* some years ago; all the rest of the chapter, like the others, is perfectly new and original.—Ed. L. G.

Advance!
To the thunder-drum
Of the stormy blast!
We dance!
Ha! ha! for the wild witch-dance!
Guilt gives the key
To misery;
And soon we'll see
The gibbet-tree,
And round the Dead we'll dance!
Ha! ha!
Ha! ha! for the wild witch-dance!
[Chorus and revel of Witches—ADOLPHUS swings from one to another into the centre ring, with MIDGLEY, NIGHTSHADE, and WOLFbane.—Scene closes.]
CHARLES SWAIN.

BIOGRAPHY.

THE LATE HUGH MURRAY, ESQ.

It is said, and generally with truth, that the lives of literary men, being devoted to study and abstraction, do not afford much incident to excite public attention. Their names are familiar, and their writings may be admired; but with the knowledge of these superficial facts the world is disposed to rest satisfied. Mr. Murray's life is an illustration of this remark. For nearly forty years he was known as an author, but his modest retiring manners prevented the sterling worth of his character from being appreciated in society so fully and extensively as it deserved to be. His family was highly respectable and well connected. His father, and grandfather, and great-grandfather were ministers of the parish and town of North Berwick in East Lothian; a living which his ancestors had held uninterruptedly from the period of the Revolution till the death of the last incumbent, his elder brother, in 1824. His mother was sister to the late Principal Hill, of the University of St. Andrews. At an early age he was placed as a clerk in the excise-office in Edinburgh, where having at command considerable leisure from his official duties, he cultivated a literary taste, which he pursued with an ardour that can best be appreciated by referring to the numerous and valuable works which he gave in succession to the world. Mr. Murray's first production, and when he was a very young man, was, we believe, the "Swiss Emigrants," a tale, published anonymously, but containing proofs of a cultivated mind, and a strong turn for romance, which might have raised him to eminence, had he chosen to select fiction as his peculiar walk of literature. A few years afterwards he enlarged and completed "Dr. Leyden's Historical Account of Discoveries and Travels in Africa," which appeared in 1817, in two 8vo volumes; his next work was the "Account of Discoveries and Travels in Asia," which was published in three vols. 8vo., in 1820; and in 1829, appeared his "Discoveries and Travels in America," in two vols. 8vo. These productions display very considerable research; they are written in a lively elegant style, and acquired for their author, at the time, a liberal share of popularity. Along with his more important labours, Mr. Murray had some connexion with the newspaper press, and was for a time editor of the *Scots Magazine*, published by the late Mr. Archibald Constable, who was at that time the great Mæcenas of Scottish literature. He also contributed to the *Edinburgh Gazetteer*; but it was his connexion with the magazine that procured for him a place in the celebrated Chalmers Manuscript, among the other rival heroes lampooned in that extraordinary satire. His great work, however, and that on which his fame will chiefly rest, was his "Encyclopædia of Geography," which appeared in 1834. It was a stupendous monument of reading, industry, and research. It seems like the employment of a lifetime, the united labours of a society of contributors, rather than the production of a single pen. During the latter years of his life, he was a frequent contributor to the "Edinburgh Cabinet Library," published by Messrs. Oliver and Boyd, and of that excellent and useful series, no fewer than fifteen volumes were either partially or entirely written by him. The most elaborate of these produc-

tions are his "History of British India," three vols.; his "Account of China," three vols.; of "British America," three vols.; of the "United States," three vols. For the same publication he wrote the historical part of the "Polar Seas and Regions," the descriptive account of "Africa," and an enlarged edition of the "Travels of Marco Polo." Such diligence has not many examples, even in this age of literary industry. These works shew that he possessed talents and acquirements of a high order, but withal his manners were simple, retiring, and unassuming to an extreme degree. His extensive knowledge made him a valuable and entertaining companion; and while esteemed for the wide range of his information, he was beloved for the kindness and simplicity of his disposition. Mr. Murray was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, also a member of the Geographical Society of London; and had been ambitious of honours, there are few literary associations of Europe on whose lists of membership his name might not have been enrolled.—*Edinburgh Advertiser.*

The Rev. Daniel Evans, B.D., Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, and of Maesnewydd, Cardiganshire, known as a Welsh bard by the title of *Daniel Ddu*, and author of the "Gwinnllan y Beirdd," a volume of Welsh poems, as well as many other Welsh and English compositions, recently committed suicide, by hanging himself with a silk handkerchief in his own bedroom. He was much esteemed by the whole social circle in which he moved; and no motive can be assigned (except insanity) for this rash and fatal act.

THE DRAMA.

THEATRICAL FUNDS.

On Monday there were two anniversary Antipholus' in the field—the Covent Garden Fund, presided over by H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge at Freemason's Tavern (the hall of which, by the by, has been very handsomely improved and re-decorated*); and the General Theatrical Fund at the London Tavern, where Mr. Dickens, in the chair, supervised the excellent culinary and cellarial entertainment usually provided in that popular gustatory resort. Both meetings went off with *éclat*; but we see in the daily newspapers an interrogative incrimination of the distribution of the Covent Garden Fund, insisting upon its being traversed in consequence of the condition of the theatre preventing its fundamental rules from being carried into effect, and virtually converting the charity into an enormous tontine of from fifty to seventy thousand pounds. The subscription was, nevertheless, an ample one; and we shall look for some explanation of these statements in addition to Mr. Meadows' able address on the occasion.

At the General Fund meeting the cause of the performers at minor theatres was warmly advocated; and as the Association has been seven years in existence, though this was its first public anniversary, there is every reason to hope that its claims will be more and more liberally recognised by the lovers of the drama wherever it is to be found.

Haymarket.—On Saturday, Mrs. Glover's benefit was fully attended, in boxes, pit, and gallery: a just tribute from all classes of playgoers to the last fine female example of the old dramatic school. Time, however, which has matured her experience, does not seem to have impaired her talent or abated her excellence. A young lady, one of the juniors of her family we believe, made a promising *début* on this occasion.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

A DAY OF SPRING.

WILD flowers, sweet friends of our youth and age,
We come to your haunts again,
Eager as birds that have burst the cage,
Or steeds that have snapped the rein.

* A noble statue of the Duke of Sussex, just finished by Baily, is about being erected here.

Fill your bright cups in the balmy air:
We have thirsted long for the draught they bear.

We have languished all for the sunny day
That should call us back to the green-wood's shade;
Our dreams have been of the songster's glade,
And starry showers of the fragrant May.
The fairy moth, and the dark wild bee,
Mingle together the gleaming wing;
And the squirrel skips from tree to tree;
And sunbeams dance in the pebbly spring.
Sweet are thy waters, O rippling pool!
There do the first green crocuses grow,
And the Meadow-queen on thy margin cool
Sheddeth perfume from her tuft of snow;
And there, on the sedge bank beneath,
Love's tender flower, with sorrowing eye,
Is telling still of her true knight's death,*
Or looking above on her own blue sky.

Again in the mossy wood and glen
We track our steps by the feathery fern,
Startling awhile from her happy nest
The thrush or the gentle wren.
A graceful lesson of life we learn:
Happy and free our footsteps roam,
Seeking and finding the violet's home;
But like the loved of our early day,
Fairest and first, they have passed away.

Cuckoo—hark, 'tis the joyous sound!
Bird of promise, we hear thee nigh,
In the wood's green depths profound:
Oh, welcome, child of a sunny sky!
How could we trust capricious Spring,
Though her bright garlands floated free,
The flowering thorn, the balmy morn,
Or e'en the dusky swallow's wing?—
Loved stranger, no—we looked for thee.

Welcome, with all things sweet and fair,
May's bright crown for beauty's brow,
Hope and health in the fresh pure air,
Blossom-fruits for the orchard-bough:
Say, have ye brought from the happy land
One charmed gift for a heart of care?
I know ye have; for, as flowers distilled,
My spirit with essence sweet is filled;
I look around, and I gaze on high:
My thoughts with a thrilling power expand—
I feel there is beauty and harmony.

Earnest, and faithful, and pardoning wrong,
Surely the heart, as an opening rose,
Touched by the season of bloom and song,
Sheddeth perfume as her leaves unclose.
Loved ones of earth, may ye soar and bring
Such gifts to Heaven in your days of spring!

MARIAN.

CHOIR-MUSIC IN A CATHEDRAL.

"I do not care for music," so we say
When wearied with some amateur's dull notes;
But, listen; here is music, and its way
Falls on the soul, and all around us floats,
E'en as the air we breathe: we hear and pray,
For each deep tone seems filled with soaring prayer;
Within our spirits' caves its spell doth stay,
And all else is forgotten—joy and care,
Life and its dreams. Methinks 'twere easy now
To part from earth and die; with this full strain
Pouring upon us, we in death might bow
The head, nor feel one haunting fear or pain:
But as the rich sound died away, so we
Might gently with it pass into eternity.

EMMA B.

VARIETIES.

Cockle-bread.—A valued correspondent remarks on our notice a fortnight since of this matter, "We have yet to learn the precise meaning and derivation of this 'Cockle' or 'Cockledy.' I find *Cocklet* bread in several common dictionaries; some treating it as the *finest*, others as *household* bread. Peete's lines would incline us to think it must have been a delicacy, rather than the contrary. N. Bailey, and Thomson (Etymons) call it 'the finest wheat bread,' and the latter classes it with *cog*, *coax*, *cocker*, and *Cockaigne*. On the other hand, Bailey's German Dictionary defines it 'das Hausle-rot: der Schifzwieback (?)' Baretti, 'pan casero, o pan que se hace en la familia;' Boyer, 'pain de ménage;' and Mr. Halliwell, after Cowell, 'second kind of best bread.' The common books give nothing like *cockle-bread*. *Mistley*-cake, possibly of some mixed flour, ought to furnish antiquarian sparrows, of whom I am not one, with crumbs."

Our Own Times, illustrated by George Cruikshank, No. 1. (Bradbury and Evans.)—The frontispiece is

* The legend of the Forget-me-not.

one of George's masterly plates, which it will take an hour or two to read through, so full is it of matter! The talent displayed in this alone is worthy of a volume of the best letterpress. We look for great entertainment from *Our Own Times*, by so fertile and original a hand.

The Messiah was performed at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday evening, by the Sacred Harmonic Society, and the leading vocal parts effectively sustained by Braham, H. Phillips, Miss Birch, and Miss Hawes.

Literary Fund: Charitable Trusts Bill.—We have heard with pleasure, in reference to the petition from the Literary Fund against the clause in the Charitable Trusts Bill, now before Parliament, that the Lord Chancellor assured the Marquess of Lansdowne, who presented it, that it never was intended to affect such institutions, and that no clause in it should interfere with the interests of the Literary Fund. This information may be valuable to other associations of a similar nature.

Sir F. Trench's Letters.—Several valuable and interesting letters from Sir F. Trench to the Woods and Forests and the Minister, have, by some means (much regretted by the writer), got into the newspapers, relative to the wanton destruction of fine old timber in the public gardens and parks about the metropolis, and other acts tending greatly and directly to impede or mar the improvement of the capital. However much we may participate with Sir Frederick in his feeling for the unauthorised publication of these statements, we cannot but rejoice that they have appeared, and trust they will have their full weight in stopping such depredations for the future, and leaving our London in an unimpaired and improvable condition.

Robert Burns.—The Edinburgh newspapers describe an interesting historical picture by Mr. Watson, one (as is well known in London) of the most eminent artists of the Scottish school, of which the subject is the Crowning of Burns in the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge of Freemasons as its Poet Laureate. There are fifty or sixty portraits, including that of the Bard himself, the Earl of Glencairn, and most of his distinguished Edinburgh friends. The date, 1787.

Discovery of Ancient Remains.—At the Temple Farm, on the Medway, above Rochester Bridge, Mr. Everist has recently commenced extensive works in brick-making, where the workmen, at the depth of about seven feet, came to a human skeleton, lying on its back, with the hands folded on the chest, a spear-head, 6½ inches long, lying on the lower part of the chest, and a weapon, which appears to have been a dagger, on the left-hand side. The dagger is 8½ inches long, and composed of two separate pieces, viz. a blade and a narrow flat piece of iron for a hilt, which appear to have been imperfectly welded, or bound together with some perishable material. Portions of Roman flue and common tiles had been used to fill up the grave, from which it may be inferred that the interment took place during the latter period of their occupation. On Saturday another skeleton was discovered, which appeared to have been carelessly thrown into its grave, as it was lying on its side, with one arm on its back, and the knees bent almost at right angles. With the latter no other remains were found.

The late Atlantic Gale.—About the middle of January commenced one of the most terrific and protracted tempests that ever swept the Atlantic—continuing with very little, or rather no intermission for upwards of forty-five days. Our accounts of the consequences of this disastrous and unparalleled weather are as yet comparatively few, but they are such as to induce the belief that a great number of vessels have suffered either total or partial shipwreck. Our fleet of over-due packets have been for a month beyond their usual time, beating and staggering about the ocean. Icebergs, snow-storms, and fierce hurricanes, have beset these vessels on every side, the sea sweeping over their decks, dashing in their bulwarks, carrying

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IMPROVED SCOURING DROPS, for removing greasy spots from Silks.
INDISTINCTION MARKING INK, for Linen, to be used without preparation, 1/2
bottle.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

The Nobility, Gentry, and the Public are respectfully informed that an **EXTRA NIGHT** will take place on **THURSDAY, April 16**, when will be presented **Mozart's** chef-d'œuvre, **DON GIOVANNI**. **Roman Anna**, Madame **Grady**, **Dona Elvira**, **Madina Sanchiolli**; **Zerlina**, **Madame Anna Castellan**; **Don Giovanni**, **Signor Formasi**; **Don Ottavio**, **Signor Mario**; **Il Commendatore**, **Signor Roselli**; **Masetto**, **Signor F. La-hache**; **Leporello**, **Signor Lablache**. With various entertainments in the ballet; in which **Madlle. L. Grasse**, **Madame Rosi**, **Stephan**, **Madlle. Tagliani**, **M. Gussini**, **M. Di Mattia**, and **M. Perrot**, will appear.

Applications for boxes, stalls, and tickets, to be made at the Box-office, Opera Colonnade.

Doors open at seven; the Opera to commence at half-past seven o'clock.

EASTER HOLYDAYS.—Novelties of extreme interest and information at the **ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION**.—Scenes in the Oregon Territory form a part of an entirely new series of Dissolving Views. Details of the most distinguished Men in the Sikh Government and Army of Lahore, magnified by the Opaque Microscope; also Portraits of Sir H. Hardinge, and Sir Robert and Lady Sale. The Periscope and Chromatope, with new and beautiful variations. The most interesting of the novelties at work, Macintosh's Rotary Engine, Coleman's Patent Locomotive Engine for ascending and descending inclined planes, Farrel's Archimedes Railway, an Envelope Cutting Machine, Wood's New Patent Steam-Engine governor, and the Atmospheric Railway. Experiments with the Diving Bell and Diver. Lectures on Chemistry and Natural Philosophy, with brilliant experiments.

Admission, 1s.; Schools, half-price. A brief description of the Oregon Territory, from Notes by a Nine Years' Resident, presented to the Visitors.

UNDER THE ESPECIAL PATRONAGE OF THE QUEEN AND PRINCE ALBERT.—THE **NEW ZEALAND EXHIBITION AND AUSTRALIAN GALLERY**, being a complete illustration of the Nature and Scenery of New Zealand and Australia. By **GEOFFREY FRANK AUSTRAL**. One Hundred Portraits of the New Zealand Chiefs, with their Wives and Children. The whole forming a most novel and splendid Collection.

Open from ten till dusk. Admission One Shilling.

LITERATURE AND ART.**BRITISH INSTITUTION, PALL MALL.**

The GALLERY, for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS, is open DAILY from TEN till FIVE.

Admission, One Shilling; Catalogue, One Shilling.

WILLIAM BARNARD, Keeper.

**ROYAL MANCHESTER INSTITUTION**

Artists are respectfully informed, that the Exhibition of Pictures in Oil and Water-Colours, Specimens of Sculpture and Casts, and Architectural Designs, will this year be OPENED on MONDAY, the 23d of June. Works of Art may be sent so as to arrive not later than the 1st of June; and those from London will be forwarded by Mr. Joseph Green, 14 Charles Street, Middlesex Hospital, if delivered to him by the 30th of May. From other places artists are requested to send them by the most convenient and least expensive conveyance.

GEO. WAREING ORMEROD, Hon. Sec.

BOOKS IN THE PRESS.**NORTH BRITISH REVIEW.**

To ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements and Bills intended for insertion in No. IX, must be sent to the Publishers by the 15th instant: 3000 Bills required.

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THE EDINBURGH REVIEW.

No. 163.

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